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## Supplementary Materials for

### Postmortem Tissue Proteomics Reveals the Pathogenesis of Multiorgan Injuries of COVID-19

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Supplementary results  
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Figs. S1 to S10

**Other Supplementary Materials for this manuscript include the following:**

Supplementary Table S1 to S13

## 27 **Supplementary results**

### 28 **The experimental procedure of this study**

29 Postmortem tissue samples were collected during the autopsy of 3 patients who were deceased  
30 from respiratory failure caused by SARS-CoV-2 infection at Wuhan Jinyintan Hospital. We  
31 collected the samples of lung and muscle from Patient 1, the samples of lung, heart, liver, spleen,  
32 kidney, intestine, brain and muscle from Patient 2, and the samples of lung, heart, liver, spleen,  
33 kidney, brain and muscle from Patient 3 (Supplementary Fig. S1A, Table S1-S3). Besides, lung  
34 paracancerous tissue samples from two lung cancer patients were collected for comparison. For  
35 each tissue sample, total proteins were extracted and processed by trypsin, and the resulting  
36 peptides were subjected to tandem mass tag (TMT) 11-plex labeling (Supplementary Fig. S1B).  
37 The peptide samples were individually labeled and analyzed in 2 batches by using liquid  
38 chromatography with tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) (Supplementary Fig. S1B). To  
39 eliminate the batch effect, the pooling mixture of the 19 samples was used as an internal control  
40 for each batch, and allocation of the 19 samples was completely random (Table S2 and S3).

41 Prior to the proteomic profiling, we analyzed the pathology of pulmonary autopsy specimens  
42 from patients 2 and 3. The main pathological change of the post-mortem lung tissues from two  
43 patients was diffuse alveolar damage (Supplementary Fig. S1C), which is similar with that caused  
44 by SARS-CoV [1]. The histology was represented mainly by a widespread destruction of  
45 pulmonary architecture, with extensive fibromyxoid exudate, alveolar haemorrhage, formation of  
46 hyaline membranes, and interstitial thickening. In addition, the ultrastructure of these lung tissue  
47 samples under transmission electron microscopy revealed several virion-like particles in alveolar  
48 epithelial cells (Supplementary Fig. S1D). These virion-like particles were approximately 80-120  
49 nm in diameter, with spiky-like projections on the surface and typical electron lucent center, which  
50 display typical coronavirus morphology of SARS-CoV-2 virion [2]. Furthermore, the  
51 immunofluorescent staining assays were performed to detect the presence of SARS-CoV-2  
52 nucleocapsid protein (NP) in lung tissue samples (Supplementary Fig. S1E).

53

### 54 **A protein atlas of eight COVID-19 postmortem tissue types**

55 From the LC-MS/MS analysis, we obtained 49,815 non-redundant peptides, with a number  
56 ranged from 36,046 to 37,855 peptides in 3 lung, 2 kidney, 2 liver, 1 intestine, 2 brain, 2 heart, 3  
57 muscle and 2 spleen samples of COVID-19 postmortem tissues, as well as 2 normal lung samples

58 (Fig. 1A). These peptides were mapped to their corresponding protein sequences, and we used the  
59 reporter ion MS2 module of the MaxQuant software package for protein quantification [3]. From  
60 the results, we observed that 5346 human proteins were quantified in at least one sample (Table  
61 S4), with protein numbers ranged from 4776 to 5000 (Fig. 1B). The protein coverage of using  
62 TMT-labeling strategy on multiple samples is expected to be lower compared to that on single  
63 sample, because the complexity is increased due to the mixture of multiple samples. Both human  
64 and SARS-CoV-2 protein sequences were included for database search, while no viral proteins  
65 were detected in any tissue samples, probably due to the background of large amount of host  
66 proteins.

67 After data normalization, we obtained the normalized protein expression (*NPE*) values of  
68 proteins (Table S5). Then, we used an entropy-based method [4, 5] to identify 226 potential tissue-  
69 specific proteins (TSPs), including 158 TSPs in brain and 68 TSPs in other tissues, respectively  
70 (Supplementary Figs. S2C, S2D, S3 and S4, Table S6). This result is consistent with the existing  
71 knowledge, since brain is one of the most specialized organs in the human body. Thus, it's not  
72 surprised that brain has most potential TSPs. Also, a hierarchical clustering was conducted for all  
73 proteins in the eight tissue types, and the result was visualized by a software package named  
74 Heatmap Illustrator (HemI) [6]. Obviously, different tissue types had distinct molecular signatures,  
75 and potential TSPs can be directly recognized from the heatmap (Supplementary Fig. 2D). Based  
76 on the annotations of GeneCards (<https://www.genecards.org/>) [7], a comprehensive database for  
77 human genes, several TSPs were picked out and shown for each tissue sample (Supplementary  
78 Figs. S3 and S4).

79

## 80 **Proteomic alterations reveal that human tissues are differentially affected in response to** 81 **COVID-19**

82 To probe the protein changes upon SARS-CoV-2 infection, we downloaded the proteomic  
83 datasets of six normal human tissues from the Human Proteome Map (HPM) [8], with a number  
84 of quantified proteins ranged from 12,007 to 16,868 (Supplementary Fig. S5A). Compared to  
85 HPM, > 96.0% of proteins quantified in this study were covered by HPM (Supplementary Fig.  
86 S5B). To enable an unbiased comparison between COVID-19 and normal samples, the same *z*-  
87 score plus min-max and median centering methods were used to individually normalize each  
88 dataset (Supplementary Fig. S5C.). The distribution of original COVID-19 protein expressions

89 and HPM data before normalization and the *NPE* values after normalization were shown in  
90 Supplementary Figure S3D and S3E. We showed that the protein expressions of all datasets were  
91 normalized and normally distributed. Moreover, the PCA analysis demonstrated that COVID-19  
92 and normal tissues could be unambiguously separated, irrespective of the data source  
93 (Supplementary Fig. S3F).

94 To identify differentially expressed proteins (DEPs), we used a tool named Model-based  
95 Analysis of Proteomic data (MAP) to analyze each pair of COVID-19 and normal tissues [9].  
96 Muscle and spleen samples were not analyzed due to the lack of the corresponding normal tissues  
97 data in HPM. In contrast with conventional statistical methods, MAP did not estimate technical  
98 and systematic errors from technical replicates. Based on a hypothesis that technical and  
99 systematic errors might be approximately identical for quantified proteins within a small window,  
100 the standard normal distribution was adopted to model the proteomic data and directly calculate a  
101 *p*-value for each protein (Table S7).

102

### 103 **A COVID-19-associated protein-protein interaction network**

104 We mapped the protein-protein interactions between SARS-CoV-2-encoded proteins and  
105 DEPs by using a published interactome data of SARS-CoV-2 proteins [10]. We obtained 110  
106 known virus-host protein-protein interactions (PPIs) between 23 viral proteins and 110 interacting  
107 DEPs differentially regulated in postmortem lung tissues (Table S12). Other lung DEPs were also  
108 included for modeling an integrative virus-host molecular network. These interacting DEPs were  
109 classified into 6 groups according to their functions, including immune response, metabolic  
110 process, transcription/translation, cell signaling/development, transport, and cytoskeleton  
111 organization, which are participate in almost all the major biological functions in host  
112 (Supplementary Fig. S9). Moreover, Gene Ontology (GO) analysis showed that these DEPs were  
113 generally involved in several immune response-related processes, including Rab protein signal  
114 transduction, blood coagulation and neutrophil degranulation (Supplementary Fig. S9 and Table  
115 S13), which are consistent with the previous findings that cytokine storm, alveolar macrophage  
116 activation, intravascular coagulation and microthrombosis are frequently presented in severe  
117 COVID-19 cases [11, 12]. Together, these results suggest that SARS-CoV-2-encoded proteins  
118 might affect the functions of the interacting host proteins in infected lungs.

119 **Supplementary discussion**

120 COVID-19 is caused by SARS-CoV-2, which is the third coronavirus to cause severe  
121 respiratory disease in humans besides SARS-CoV and Middle East respiratory syndrome  
122 coronavirus (MERS-CoV). Since its emergence from late 2019 [13], the outbreak of SARS-CoV-  
123 2 has resulted in tremendous impacts on global health, social and economics, making COVID-19  
124 a global pandemic and the worst public health crisis once a century.

125 About 20% COVID-19 patients have been reported to develop severe or critical conditions  
126 [14], and the mortality rate of critically ill cases can reach over 60% [15]. The main targets of  
127 SARS-CoV-2 are human low respiratory tract and lung, while many other organs, including liver,  
128 heart, intestine, kidney, central nervous system and muscle have been also found to be injured [16-  
129 18]. Among the broad symptoms of COVID-19, fever, pneumonia, respiratory failure, acute  
130 respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS),

131 and sepsis are frequently observed complications, which are usually associated with  
132 pathophysiological changes such as alveolar macrophage activation, lymphopenia, cytokine  
133 release syndrome, thrombosis and intravascular coagulation in severe COVID-19 patients [11, 13,  
134 19-23]. However, despite of extensive efforts made by global scientific community to study this  
135 emerging coronavirus disease, the molecular mechanisms underlying its pathogenesis, particularly  
136 the pathogenesis of COVID-19-associated multiorgan injuries, are still barely understood, which  
137 represents a major obstacle to fully understand and find out effective ways to combat against this  
138 deadly coronavirus disease. In this study, we provide the postmortem tissue proteomic datasets  
139 that provides the most direct and reliable evidence of the pathophysiological changes of human  
140 bodies in response to SARS-CoV-2 infections, and uncovers that SARS-CoV-2 infection affected  
141 different set of host processes in different organs or tissues, which probably contribute to the  
142 pathogenesis of COVID-19-associated multiorgan injuries.

143 One of the key findings obtained here is that proteins and pathways are differently altered in  
144 distinct human tissues or organs in response to COVID-19. In a recent study, Nie et al. identified  
145 that immune- and inflammation-related pathways were significantly up-regulated in multiple  
146 organs, such as lung, spleen, heart, kidney, and thyroid [24]. However, our analysis found that  
147 these processes, such as humoral immune response, complement activation, B-cell mediated  
148 immunity, acute phase response and cytolysis, were upregulated only in lungs from all the tissues  
149 examined, showing that excessive immune response and inflammation were extensively occurred

150 in lungs. Consistently, our histopathological examinations also showed that interstitial  
151 mononuclear/macrophage cell infiltration and inflammation were presented in lung tissues. On the  
152 other hand, cell morphology maintenance-related pathways were downregulated in lungs. These  
153 results indicated that the microscopic structure of alveolar cells and lungs were severely damaged,  
154 consistent with the postmortem pathological and histopathological observations in the current  
155 study and by others that extensive fibromyxoid exudation, alveolar haemorrhage and thrombosis  
156 were found in lungs [25, 26]. Therefore, we conclude that the excessive inflammation in lungs of  
157 severe COVID-19 cases increases vascular permeability and activates coagulation cascades,  
158 resulting in vascular thrombosis and probably a systemic hypoxia, and also causes a widespread  
159 destruction of pulmonary architecture and functions. Our findings are in accordance with previous  
160 clinical and autopsy observations that severe or critical ill COVID-19 patients are frequently  
161 associated with massive intravascular thrombus, hypoxemia, and ARDS [13, 15, 17, 19-22, 25-  
162 27], which are pathophysiologically associated with cytokine storm, alveolar macrophage  
163 activation, intravascular coagulation and microthrombosis [11, 12, 23].

164 On the other hand, unlike the host protein responses in lungs, our study revealed that the DEPs  
165 in tissues of liver, kidney, intestine, brain, and heart are mainly present in pathways involved in  
166 organ movement, respiration, and metabolism. For example, some shared altered pathways,  
167 including muscle filament sliding and contraction, cellular respiration, NADH metabolic process,  
168 hydrogen peroxide metabolic process, and glucose catabolic process, were found to be  
169 significantly downregulated in kidney, liver, intestine, and brain, and these findings were highly  
170 consistent with the Nie's study [24]. These results indicated that these tissues were affected by  
171 hypoxia and their functions and morphology were dramatically impaired, which are consistent  
172 with the previous clinical data that multiorgan failure are frequently observed complications in  
173 severe COVID-19 cases [13, 15, 20, 21]. Surprisingly, based on our proteomic data, very few  
174 immune- or inflammation-related pathways were found to be significantly altered in other  
175 organs/tissues, indicating that the leading cause of multiorgan injuries in non-lung organs/tissues  
176 is hypoxia but not excessive inflammation. Thus, we propose that lung is the center of the virus-  
177 host battlefields of COVID-19, and the excessive inflammatory responses to SARS-CoV-2  
178 infection in lungs result in the thrombosis and destruction of pulmonary architecture and functions,  
179 leading to hypoxia of multiple organs in the whole body and subsequent disease aggravation.

180 Omics studies under the pathophysiological conditions caused by viral infections are powerful  
181 weapons to explore the pathogenesis of viral infectious diseases, establish animal models as well  
182 as develop potential clinical treatments. After the outbreak of COVID-19, both direct RNA  
183 sequencing (DRS)-based transcriptomic and LC-MS/MS-based proteomic, metabolomic or  
184 lipidomic profilings were conducted for analyzing SARS-CoV-2 and/or host samples [15, 24, 28-  
185 35]. Particularly, Gordon et al. generated a SARS-CoV-2-encoded protein interactome using  
186 affinity-purification mass spectrometry (AP-MS) [10]. In this study, using this interactome data,  
187 we generated 110 known virus-host PPIs between 22 viral proteins of SARS-CoV-2 and 110  
188 interacting DEPs in lung tissues, suggesting that these viral proteins directly affect the expressions  
189 and/or functions of these interacting host proteins. Therefore, it would be intriguing to integrate  
190 the omics data to generate a more comprehensive picture of the pathogenicity of SARS-CoV-2  
191 and the pathogenesis of COVID-19.

192 Taken together, our findings demonstrate the significant pathophysiological alternations of  
193 host proteins/pathways associated with multiorgan injuries of COVID-19, which provides  
194 invaluable knowledge about COVID-19-associated host responses and sheds light on the  
195 pathogenesis of COVID-19.

196 **Supplementary Methods**

197 Ethics and Human Subjects

198 All work performed in this study was approved by the Wuhan Jinyintan Hospital Ethics  
199 Committee (No. KY-2020-15.01). Diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection was based on the New  
200 Coronavirus Pneumonia Prevention and Control Program (6th edition) published by the National  
201 Health Commission of China.

202

203 Patient and Samples

204 We analyzed postmortem tissue samples from 3 patients who died from respiratory failure  
205 caused by SARS-CoV-2 infection at Wuhan Jinyintan Hospital. Briefly, Patient 1 is a 53-year-old  
206 female. Patient 2 is a 62-year-old male. Patient 3 is a 66-year-old female (Table S1). All the  
207 patients had fever, cough and shortness of breath and progressed into ARDS due to severe  
208 pulmonary lesions with significantly decreased lymphocytes. Finally, all these patients died of  
209 respiratory failure.

210 We collected the samples of lung and muscle from patient 1, the samples of lung, heart,  
211 liver, spleen, kidney, intestine, brain and muscle from patient 2, and the samples of lung, heart,  
212 liver, spleen, kidney, brain and muscle from patient 3. Besides, lung paracancerous tissue samples  
213 from 2 lung cancer patients (a 65-year-old male and a 57-year-old female) were collected for  
214 comparison (Table S1). For all the three deceased COVID-19 patients, the interval time between  
215 patient decease and autopsy was less than 1 h, and postmortem specimens were immediately frozen  
216 in liquid nitrogen after dissection. All the samples were treated according to the biocontainment  
217 procedures of the processing of SARS-CoV-2-positive sample. For the cancer patients, the  
218 paracancerous tissue samples were resected from the patients and also immediately stored in liquid  
219 nitrogen before further treatment.

220

221 Haematoxylin and eosin staining and immunofluorescence analysis

222 Tissues from the case were fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde for 24 h. Tissues were then  
223 embedded in optimal cutting temperature (OCT) compound and cut into 3.5- $\mu$ m sections using  
224 Rotary Microtome (Thermo Scientific™ HM 355S). Mounted microscope slides were fixed with  
225 paraformaldehyde and stained with haematoxylin and eosin for histopathological examination.



226 Slides were dewaxed with dimethylbenzene and gradient alcohol, antigen repaired with  
227 ethylene diamine tetraacetic acid (pH=8.0), then blocked by incubating with 5% bovine serum  
228 albumin (BIOSHARP, Hefei, China) at 37 °C for 30 min, followed by overnight incubation at 4 °C  
229 with the rabbit anti- SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid protein (NP) antibody (1:200) [2] in phosphate  
230 buffered solution. After washing, slides were then incubated for 1 h at room temperature with  
231 fluorescein isothiocyanate-conjugated goat-anti-rabbit IgG (Proteintech) in PBS, then stained with  
232 2-(4-Amidinophenyl)-6-indolecarbamide dihydrochloride (DAPI, Beyotime, Nanjing, China)  
233 and observed under a fluorescence microscope (Nikon A1 MP STORM).

234

#### 235 Transmission electron microscopy

236 Tissues from the case were fixed with 2.5% (weight/volume) glutaraldehyde, post-fixed with  
237 1% osmium tetroxide, and then dehydrated with gradient alcohol (from 30%-100%), embedded  
238 with epoxy resin. Ultrathin sections (80 nm) of embedded cells were prepared, deposited onto  
239 Formvar-coated copper grids (200 mesh), double-stained with uranium acetate and lead citrate,  
240 then observed under 200 kV Tecnai G2 electron microscope (ThermoFisher Scientific FEI).

241

#### 242 Sample preparation

243 The tissue samples were first homogenized in lysis buffer consisted of 2.5% SDS/100 mM  
244 Tris-HCl (pH 8.0) [36]. The wet weight, protein concentration and total protein weight for each  
245 tissue sample are shown in Table S2. After 15 min of incubation in the boiling water bath, the  
246 samples were subjected to treatment with ultra-sonication. After centrifugation ( $12000 \times g$ , 15  
247 min), proteins in the supernatant were precipitated by adding 4 times of cold acetone. The protein  
248 sample was dissolved in 8 M Urea/100 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8.0). After centrifugation, the  
249 supernatant was used for reduction reaction (10 mM DTT, 37 °C for 1 h), and followed by  
250 alkylation reaction (40 mM iodoacetamide, room temperature/dark place for 30 min). Protein  
251 concentration was measured by Bradford method. Urea was diluted below 2 M using 100 mM  
252 Tris-HCl (pH 8.0). Trypsin was added at a ratio of 1:50 (enzyme: protein, *w/w*) for overnight  
253 digestion at 37 °C. The next day, trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) was used to bring the pH down to 6.0  
254 to end the digestion. After centrifugation, the supernatant was subjected to peptide purification  
255 using Sep-Pak C18 desalting column. The peptide eluate was dried in vacuum and stored at -20 °C  
256 for later use.

257 Tandem mass tag (TMT) labeling was performed according to manufacturer's instructions.  
258 Briefly, peptides were reconstituted in TMT reagent buffer, and the samples were separately  
259 labeled with different TMT labeling reagents. The labeled samples were then mixed and subjected  
260 to Sep-Pak C18 desalting. The complex mixture was fractionated using high pH reversed-phase  
261 liquid chromatography (RPLC) and combined into 20 fractions. Each fraction was dried in vacuum  
262 and stored at -80 °C until MS analysis.

263

#### 264 LC-MS/MS analysis

265 LC-MS/MS data acquisition was carried out on a Q Exactive HF-X mass spectrometer  
266 coupled with an Easy-nLC 1200 system (both Thermo Scientific). Peptides were first loaded onto  
267 a C18 trap column (75 µm × 2 cm, 3 µm particle size, 100 Å pore size, Thermo) and then separated  
268 in a C18 analytical column (75 µm × 250 mm, 3 µm particle size, 100 Å pore size, Thermo).  
269 Mobile phase A (0.1% formic acid) and mobile phase B (80% ACN, 0.1% formic acid) were used  
270 to establish the separation gradient. The total collection time of each TMT batch mass spectrum is  
271 20 h. Each batch is divided into 20 components and subjected to 60 min LC gradient per fraction.  
272 A constant flow rate was set at 300 nL/min. For data-dependent acquisition (DDA) mode analysis,  
273 each scan cycle consisted of one full-scan mass spectrum (R = 120 K, AGC = 3e6, max IT = 50  
274 ms, scan range = 350–1800 m/z) followed by 20 MS/MS events (R = 45 K, AGC = 1e5, max IT =  
275 86 ms). High energy collision dissociation (HCD) collision energy was set to 32. Isolation window  
276 for precursor selection was set to 1.2 Da. Former target ion exclusion was set for 45 s.

277

#### 278 Database research

279 MS raw data were analyzed with MaxQuant (V1.6.6) using the Andromeda database search  
280 algorithm. The human proteome database contained 20,366 Swiss-Prot/reviewed human protein  
281 sequences downloaded from UniProt (<https://www.uniprot.org/proteomes/UP000005640>, on  
282 March 17, 2020), whereas the SARS-CoV-2 proteome database contained 12 protein sequences  
283 derived from its CDS regions ([https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nucore/NC\\_045512.2](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nucore/NC_045512.2), on March 17,  
284 2020) [37]. The two databases were merged and reverse decoy sequences were generated. Then,  
285 spectra files were searched against the merged database using the following parameters: Type,  
286 TMT; Variable modifications, Oxidation (M), Deamidation (NQ), Acetyl (Protein N-term); Fixed  
287 modifications, Carbamidomethyl (C); Digestion, Trypsin/P. The MS1 match tolerance was set as

288 20 ppm for the first search and 4.5 ppm for the main search. The MS2 tolerance was set as 20 ppm.  
289 Search results were filtered with 1% false discovery rate (FDR) at both protein and peptide levels.  
290 Proteins denoted as decoy hits, contaminants, or only identified by sites were removed, and the  
291 remaining proteins were used for further analysis.

### 293 Proteomic data imputation and normalization

294 To ensure the data quality, only 4993 proteins quantify in  $\geq 10$  samples were reserved. The  
295 missing values were imputed with values representing a normal distribution around the detection  
296 limit of the mass spectrometer. For each sample, the mean and standard deviation (S.D.) of the  
297 distribution of the raw protein intensities were determined. Then a new distribution with a  
298 downshift of 1.5 S.D. and a width of 0.3 S.D. was created. The total data set was imputed using  
299 these values, enabling statistical analysis.

300 After imputation, the intensity-based expression value of a protein was first normalized based  
301 on its expression level in the control sample of the same batch to eliminate the batch effect. Then,  
302 the proteomic data of each sample was normalized into a similar distribution using the  $z$ -score  
303 transformation, one of the mostly used normalization methods. For each sample, the mean  
304 expression value  $\mu$  and S.D.  $\delta$  were first calculated. For a protein  $i$  with the expression level of  $x_i$ ,  
305 its normalized  $z$ -score was calculated as below:

$$306 \quad z_i = \frac{x_i - \mu}{\delta}$$

307 For each  $z_i$ , we re-scaled it into a value ranged from 0 to 1 by min-max normalization shown as  
308 below:

$$309 \quad z_i^* = \frac{z_i - Min}{Max - Min}$$

310 Where  $Max$  and  $Min$  were maximum and minimum expression values in the sample. The median  
311 centering method was further used, and the  $NPE$  value for  $i$  was calculated as below:

$$312 \quad NPE_i = \frac{z_i^*}{Median}$$

313 After  $z$ -score coupled with min-max and median centering normalizations,  $NPE$  values of proteins  
314 follow a logarithmic normal distribution ( $\log_2$ ) centered at zero.

315 The proteomic data imputation and normalization was conducted using Perseus 1.6.14 [3].  
316 To test whether different tissue-specific proteomes could be distinguished, PCA was performed

317 using Scikit-learn 0.22.1 (<https://scikit-learn.org/stable/>), a powerful toolkit for data mining and  
318 analysis.

319

### 320 Human normal proteomic data

321 From the HPM portal (<http://humanproteomemap.org/>) [8], pre-compiled proteomic datasets  
322 of lung, kidney, liver, colon, frontal cortex and heart in adults were downloaded, containing 12,335,  
323 12,252, 16,800, 14,813, 16,868, and 12,007 quantified proteins, respectively. The HPM proteomic  
324 datasets were also imputed and normalized by the same methods described above.

325

### 326 Identification of tissue-specific proteins

327 As previously described [4, 5], an entropy-based method was adopted to identify potential  
328 TSPs in human COVID-19 tissues. For each protein, its relative *NPE* (*rNPE*) value in a tissue *j*  
329 was defined as below:

$$330 \quad rNPE_j = \frac{NPE_j}{\sum_1^N NPE}$$

331 Where *NPE<sub>j</sub>* was the normalized expression value in the tissue *j*, and  $\sum NPE$  was the sum of all  
332 *NPE* values in all tissue samples. *N* was the total number of COVID-19 tissues. Then, the Shannon  
333 entropy *H* of this protein across different tissues could be calculated as below:

$$334 \quad H = - \sum_1^N rNPE_j \times \log_2(rNPE_j)$$

335 Where the value of *H* ranged from 0 to  $\log_2(N)$ . A smaller *H* score represented a higher probability  
336 of a protein to be a real TSP. Based on the distribution of *H* scores, proteins with entropy < 2.5  
337 were reserved as potential TSPs.

338

### 339 Model-based identification of differentially expressed protein (DEPs)

340 In this study, MAP was directly used to identify potential DEPs for each pair of COVID-19  
341 and normal tissues [8]. For a two-sample comparison, MAP first ranks all proteins based on their  
342  $\log_2$ -intensity changes. Then, MAP estimates local technical and systematic errors for each small  
343 interval by considering the changes of all proteins in the interval, and significantly altered proteins  
344 can be detected. Thus, MAP does not require technical replicates, which are commonly used for  
345 estimation of the same parameters. For a tissue type with multiple samples, the mean *NPE* value

346 was calculated for each protein. Then, the  $\log_2$  ratios of COVID-19 *vs.* normal tissues for all  
347 proteins were determined and ordered based on their values. For using MAP, default parameters  
348 were adopted, with a sliding window size of 400 proteins, a step size of 100 proteins, and a fraction  
349 of 50 proteins [8]. In MAP, the Benjamini–Hochberg method was used for adjustment of multiple  
350 testing, and an adjusted  $p$ -value  $< 0.05$  was selected to identify potential DEPs. Fold changes of  
351 postmortem *vs.* normal tissues were also present for identified DEPs.

352

### 353 GSEA enrichment analysis

354 The software package of GSEA v4.0.3 was downloaded (<https://gsea-msigdb.org>) [38], as  
355 well as the gene set collection of GO biological processes with gene symbols  
356 (c5.bp.v7.1.symbols.gmt). A stringent threshold of FDR  $q$ -val  $< 0.01$  was adopted to detect GO  
357 biological processes significantly up- or down-regulated in COVID-19 tissues.

358

### 359 Re-construction of a virus-host protein interaction network

360 From the Human Protein Atlas (HPA), we obtained 331 known virus-host PPIs  
361 (<https://www.proteinatlas.org/humanproteome/sars-cov-2>) reported by a recent study <sup>[10]</sup>. Since  
362 lung is the potentially major virus-host battlefield of COVID-19, only 110 virus-host PPIs were  
363 reserved for 23 SARS-CoV-2 proteins/mature peptides and 110 interacting DEPs in postmortem  
364 lung tissues. The 198 DEPs of 16 up-regulated biological processes in COVID-19 lung tissues  
365 were also included. Based on the functional annotations in UniProt, we classified the 308 lung  
366 DEPs into 6 classes, including cell signaling/development, cytoskeleton organization, immune  
367 response, metabolic process, transcription/translation, and transport. Then, 1,771,193 human  
368 known PPIs of 18,839 proteins were integrated from 7 public databases, including BioGrid [39],  
369 IID [40], InBio Map<sup>TM</sup> [41], Mentha [42], HINT [43], iRefIndex [44] and PINA [45]. For the 308  
370 lung DEPs, we extracted 2,478 PPIs for 298 unique proteins, and the virus-host protein interaction  
371 network was constructed and visualized with Cytoscape 3.6.1 software package [46].

372

### 373 GO enrichment analyses

374 The two-sided hypergeometric test was adopted for the enrichment analysis of the 110 SARS-  
375 CoV-2 interacting DEPs. Here, we defined:

376  $N$  = number of human proteins annotated by at least one term

377  $n$  = number of human proteins annotated by term  $t$

378  $M$  = number of the 110 DEPs by at least one term

379  $m$  = number of the 110 DEPs annotated by term  $t$

380 Then, the E-ratio was calculated, and the  $P$  value was computed with the hypergeometric  
381 distribution as below:

382 
$$\text{E-ratio} = \frac{\frac{m}{n}}{\frac{M}{N}}$$

383 
$$P \text{ value} = \sum_{m'=m}^n \frac{\binom{M}{m'} \binom{N-M}{n-m'}}{\binom{N}{n}}, (\text{E-ratio} > 1)$$

384 In this study, GO annotation files (on 03 January 2020) were downloaded from the Gene Ontology  
385 Consortium Web site (<http://www.geneontology.org/>), and we obtained 19,714 human proteins  
386 annotated with at least one GO biological process term.

387

#### 388 Comparison of DEPs identified from other proteomic studies

389 Prior to our study, there were 7 omics studies of host protein changes upon SARS-CoV-2  
390 infection, including 5 in cell lines, 1 in lung tissues, and 1 in 144 autopsy samples from 7 organs.  
391 These works included: 1) Bojkova et al. used the stable isotope labeling by amino acids in cell  
392 culture (SILAC) labeling and quantified 6385 proteins in the human colon epithelial carcinoma  
393 cell line Caco-2 with or without SARS-CoV-2 infection [28]; 2) Bezstarosti et al. used the label-  
394 free technique and quantified 6503 proteins from the African green monkey kidney Vero E6 cells  
395 with or without SARS-CoV-2 infection [32]; 3) Grenga et al. used the label-free technique and  
396 quantified 3320 proteins from Vero cells with or without SARS-CoV-2 infection [34]; 4)  
397 Appelberg et al. used the TMT labeling and quantified 7757 proteins in the human hepatocyte-  
398 derived cellular carcinoma cell line Huh7 with or without SARS-CoV-2 infection [35]; 5) Leng et  
399 al. obtained 3 lung tissue samples from 2 COVID-19 patients, and quantified 3321 proteins using  
400 the label-free technique [31]; 6) Nie et al. used TMT 16-plex labeling and quantified 11,394  
401 proteins from 144 autopsies of 7 organs including lung, spleen, liver, kidney, heart, testis and  
402 thyroid in 19 COVID-19 patients [24]; 7) Thorne et al. conducted transcriptomic, proteomic and  
403 phosphoproteomic quantifications of human airway epithelial Calu-3 cells infected by 3 new  
404 SARS-CoV-2 strains, including the B lineage isolate BetaCoV/Australia/VIC01/2020 (VIC),  
405 B.1.13 lineage isolate hCoV-19/England/IC19/2020 (IC19), and B.1.1.7 lineage isolate hCoV-

406 19/England/204690005/2020 B (Kent), for 10 or 24 h [47]. Calu-3 cells infected with empty vector  
407 were taken as the mock control. On average, the numbers of identified proteins ranged from 3600  
408 to 4000.

409 From Leng's study, we obtained 641 pre-determined DEPs in lung with COVID-19 [31].  
410 From Bojkova's paper, we obtained 2734 DEPs from Caco-2 cells after SARS-CoV-2 infection  
411 [32]. From Nie's paper, we obtained 1606, 1585, 642, 1969, and 919 DEPs from lung, renal cortex,  
412 renal medulla, liver, and heart of COVID-19 patients [24]. From Thorne's study, we obtained 48  
413 non-redundant DEPs in new virus strains against mock or between different new strains, while  
414 DEPs in Mock\_10h against Mock\_24h were not considered [47].

415

#### 416 Data and Software Availability

417 The mass spectrometry proteomics data have been deposited to the ProteomeXchange  
418 Consortium (<http://proteomecentral.proteomexchange.org>) via the iProX partner repository with  
419 the dataset identifier PXD019970.

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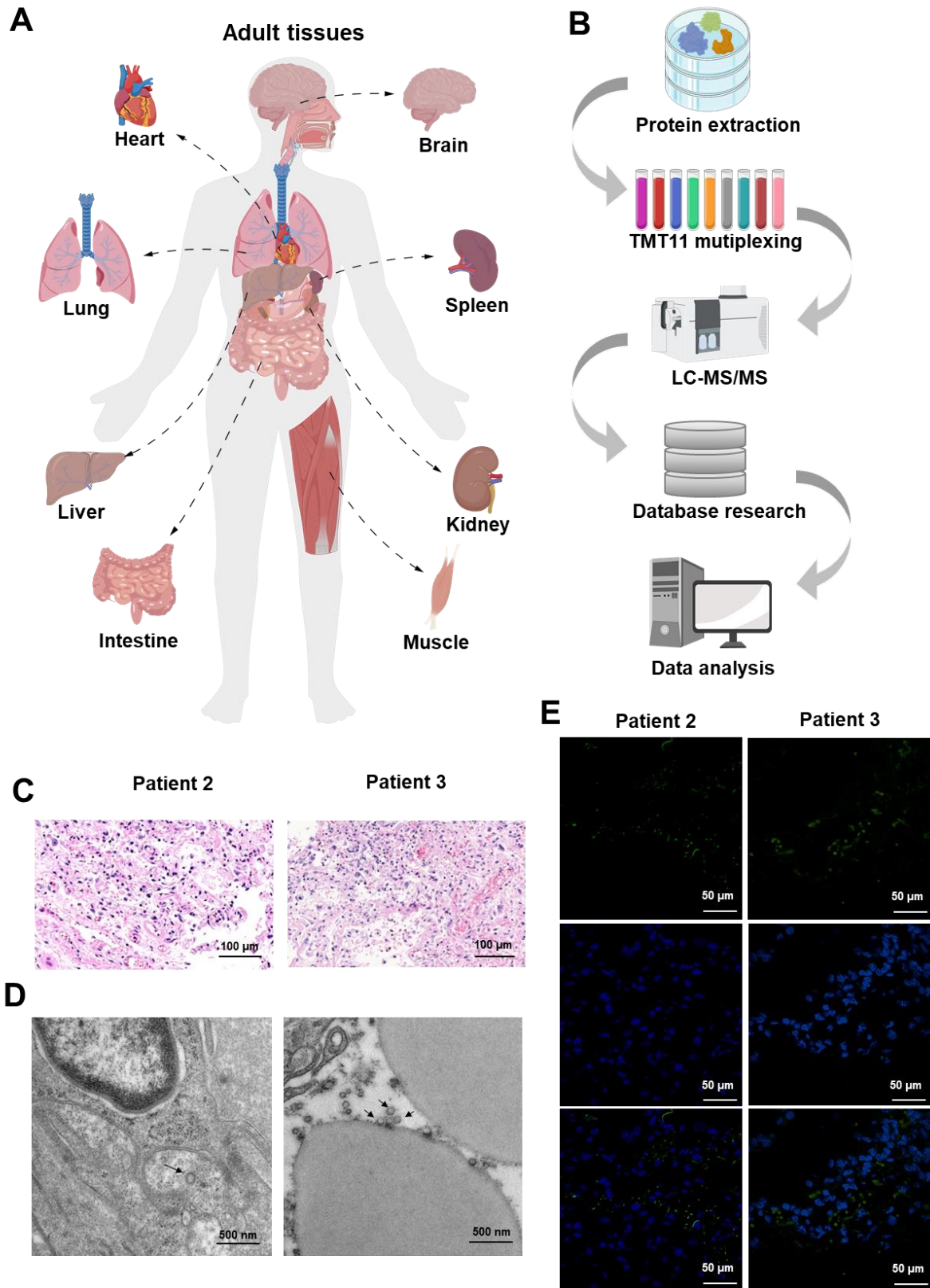
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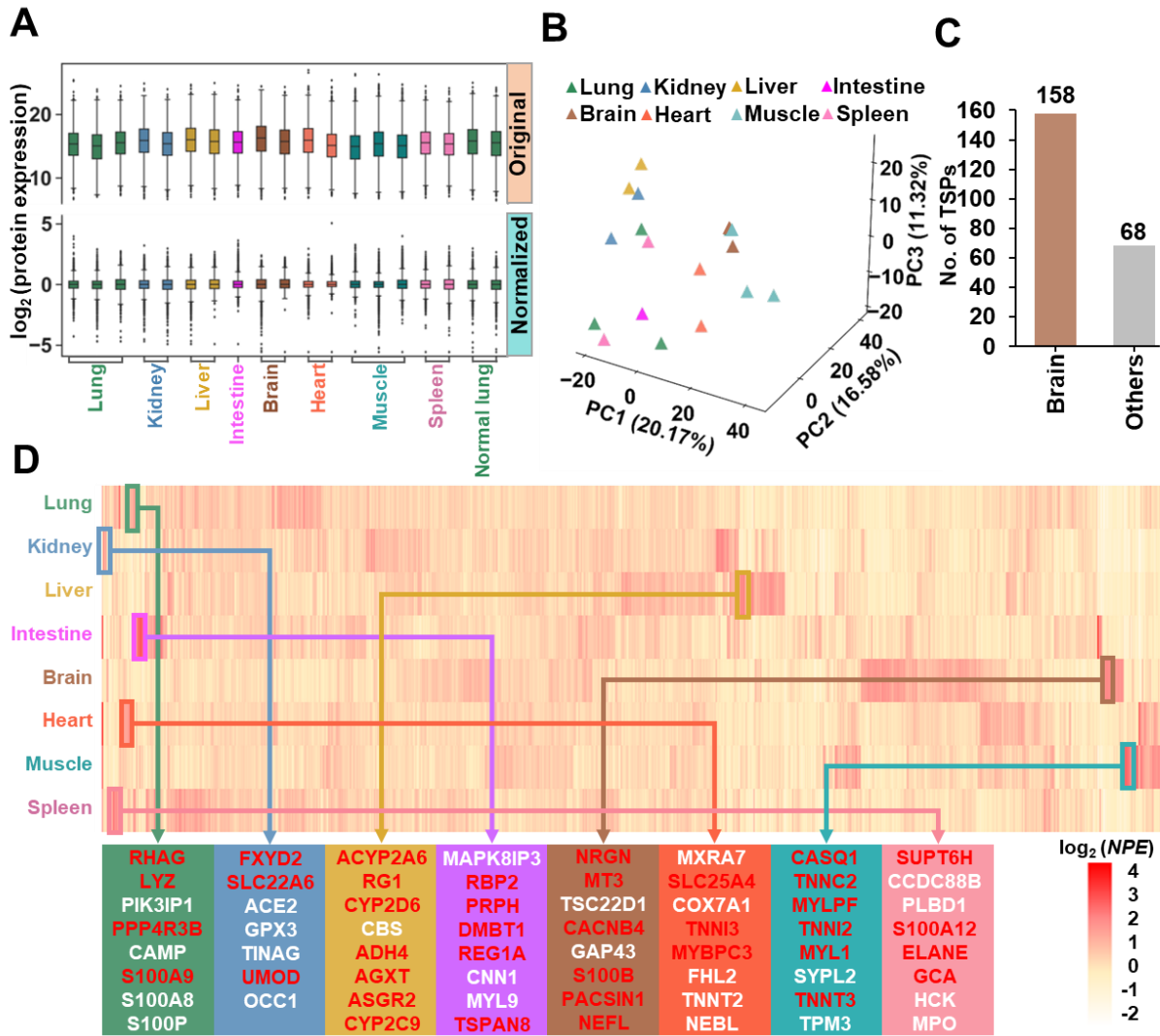
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523



526 **Figure S1. Study design and patients.** **A**, Overview of postmortem tissue samples that were  
527 analyzed to generate a draft map of COVID-19 patient's proteome are shown. **B**, The workflow of  
528 tissue samples preparation. **C**, Pathological changes of lung tissue in two patients with COVID-  
529 19. The tissues were fixed with paraformaldehyde and stained with the hematoxylin an eosin (HE).  
530 **D**, SARS-CoV-2-like particles (black arrowed) observed by electron microscopy in lung tissues  
531 (left, original magnification 9600×; right, original magnification 7800×). **E**, SARS-CoV-2  
532 nucleocapsid (NP) protein (green) and DAPI (blue) detected by immunofluorescence staining.



533

534 **Figure S2. Proteomic profiling of eight types of COVID-19 postmortem tissues. A,**

535 Normalization of the proteomic data using the z-score plus min-max and median centering methods.

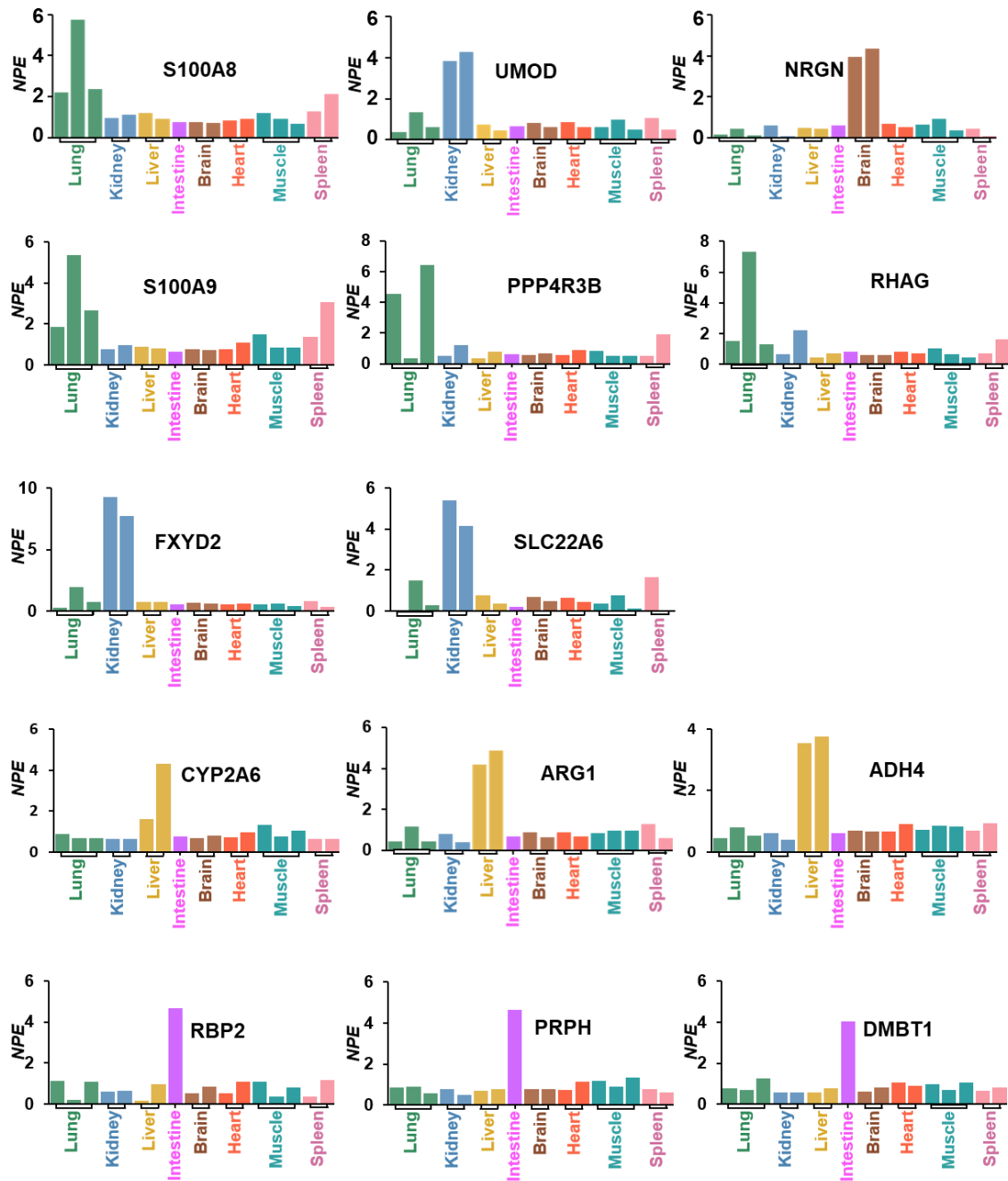
536 **B,** PCA analysis of the proteomic data with *NPE* values. **C,** An entropy-based prediction of

537 potential TSPs (entropy < 2.5). **D,** A heatmap of protein expressions in the eight types of

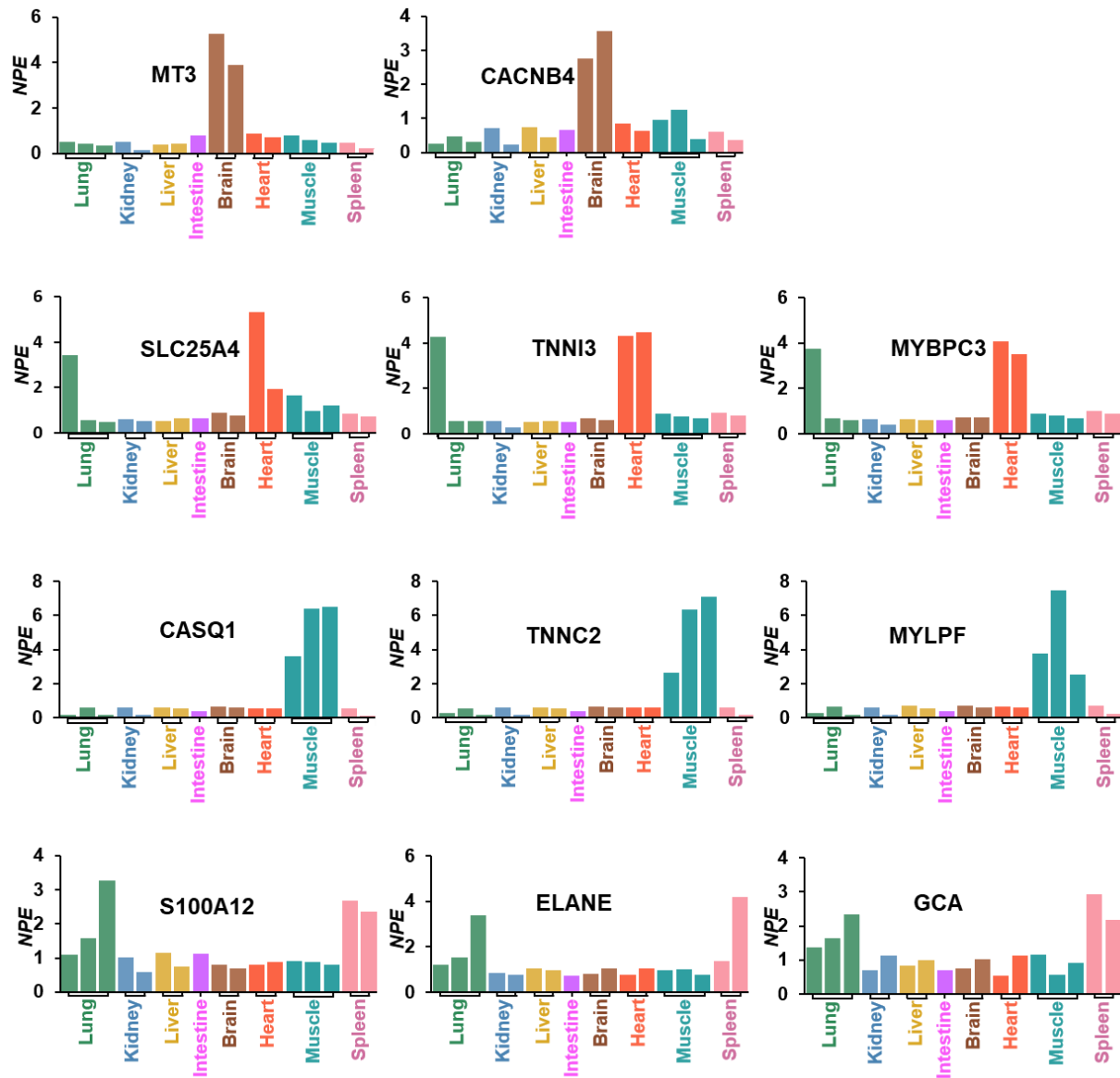
538 postmortem tissues, after a hierarchical clustering. Selected proteins in boxes include well-

539 characterized (red) and potential (white) TSPs.

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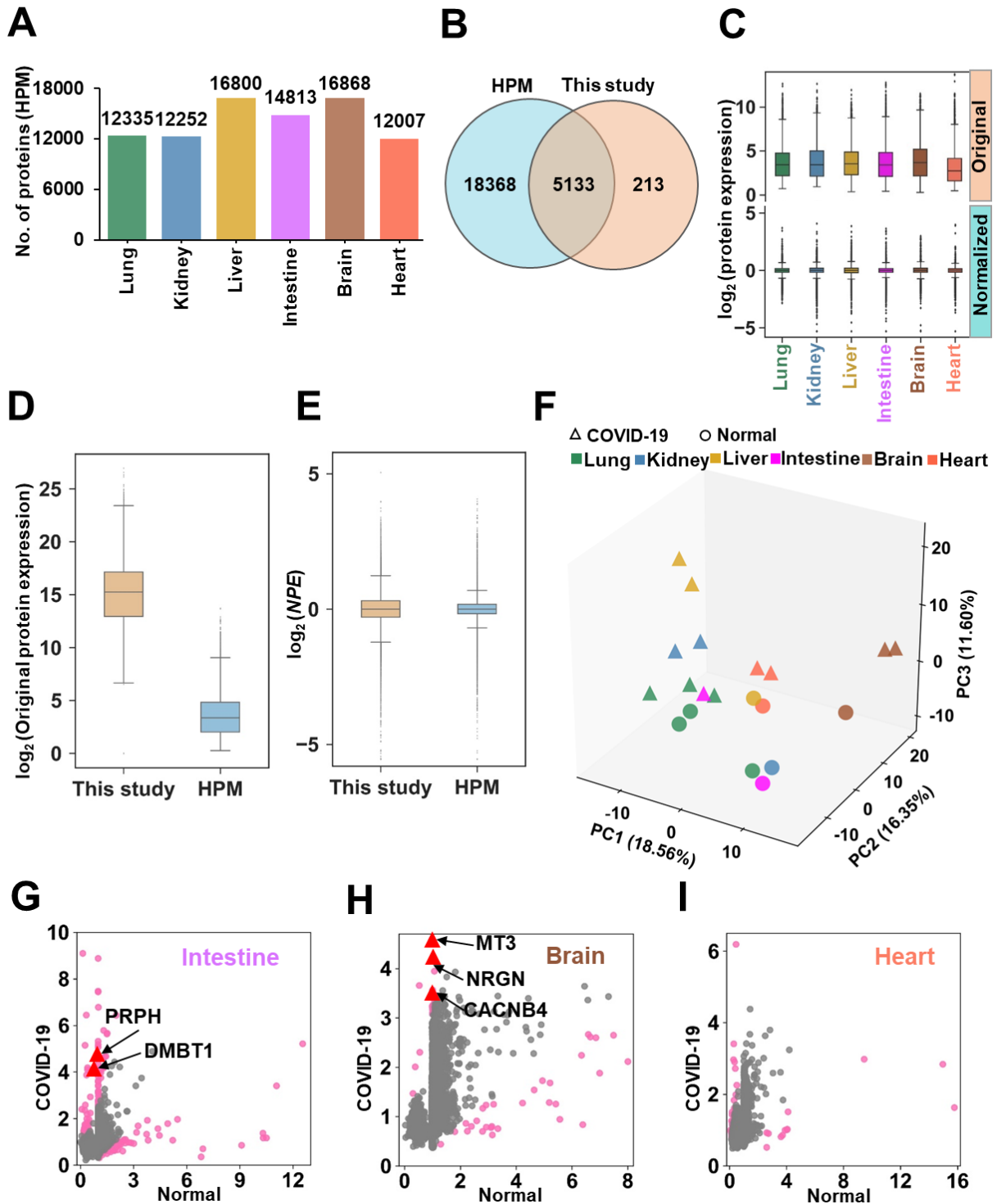
541  
 542 **Figure S3.** Normalized expression levels of the selected potentially tissue-specific proteins (TSPs)  
 543 in tissues of lung, kidney, liver and intestine. The potentially TSPs were identified by the entropy-  
 544 based method (Entropy score  $H < 2.5$ ). For tissue types with multiple samples, the mean *NPE*  
 545 values was calculated for each protein.



546

547 **Figure S4.** Normalized expression levels of the selected TSPs in tissues of brain, heart, muscle  
 548 and spleen. TSPs were identified by the entropy-based method (Entropy score  $H < 2.5$ ). For tissue  
 549 types with multiple samples, the mean *NPE* values was calculated for each protein.

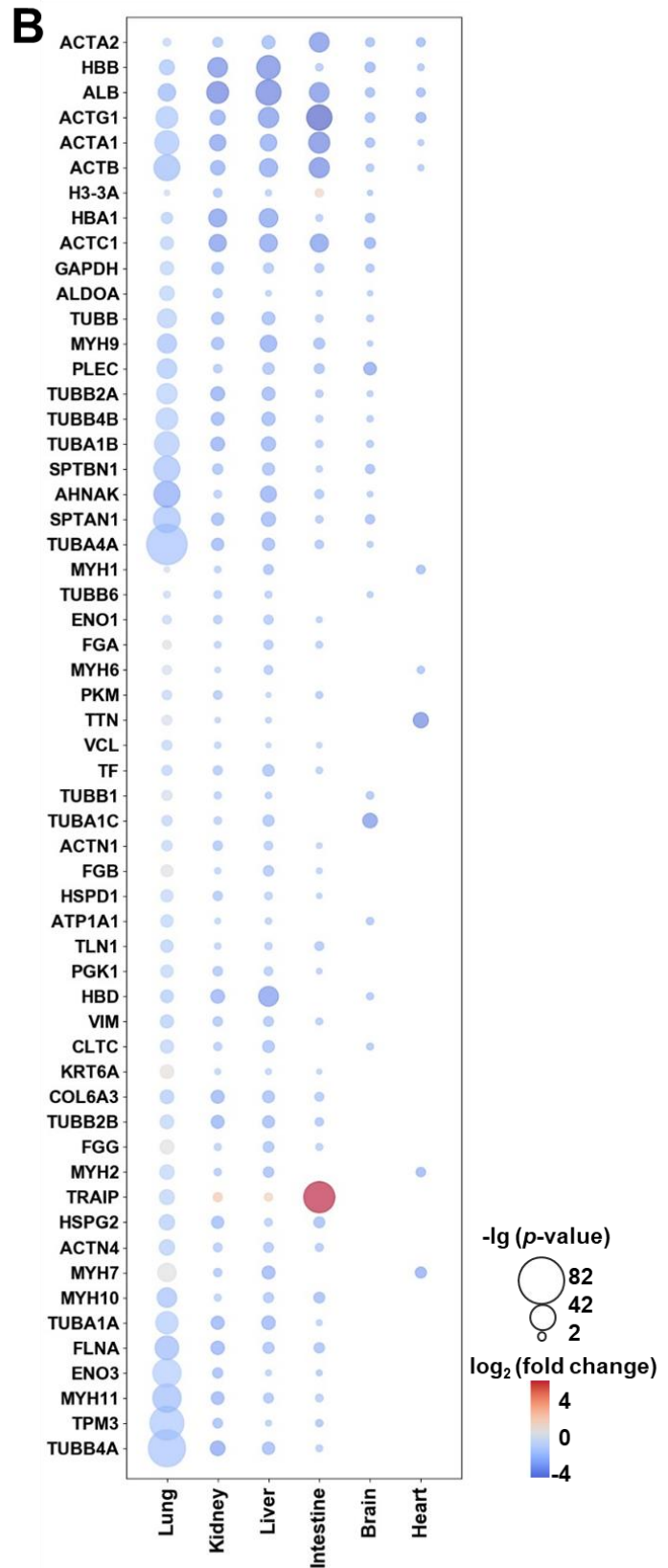
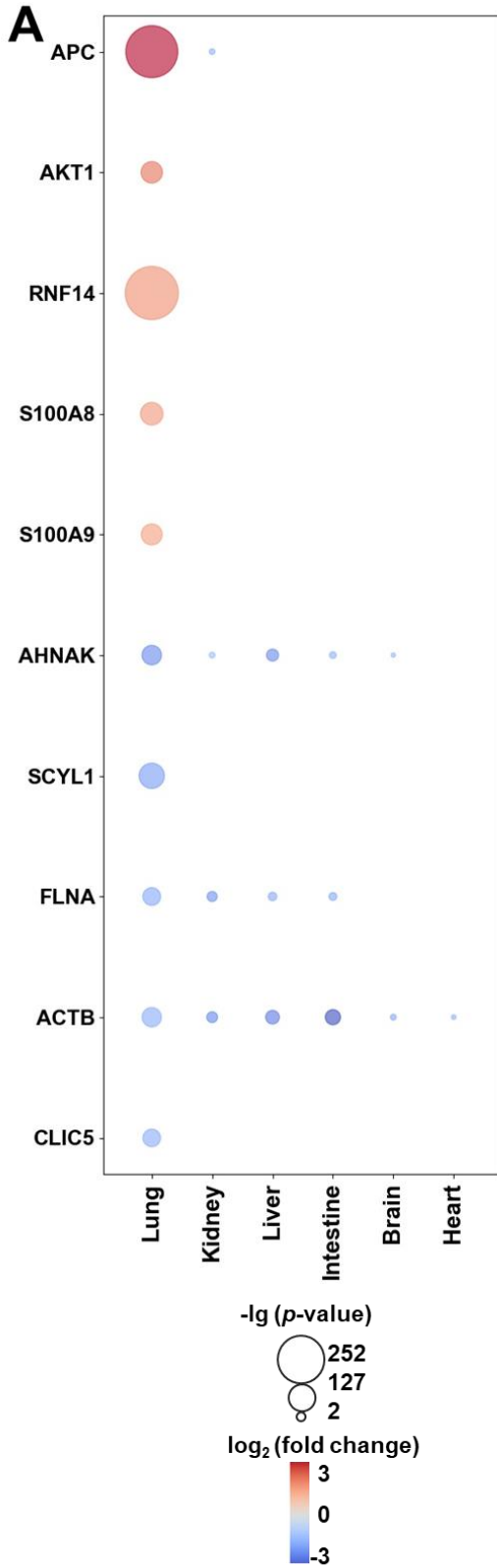
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551  
 552 **Figure S5. A comparison of the proteomic data in postmortem tissues against normal tissues**  
 553 **in HPM. A,** The distribution of numbers of quantified proteins for six tissues obtained from HPM.  
 554 **B,** The overlap of quantified proteins in HPM and this study. **C,** The z-score plus min-max and

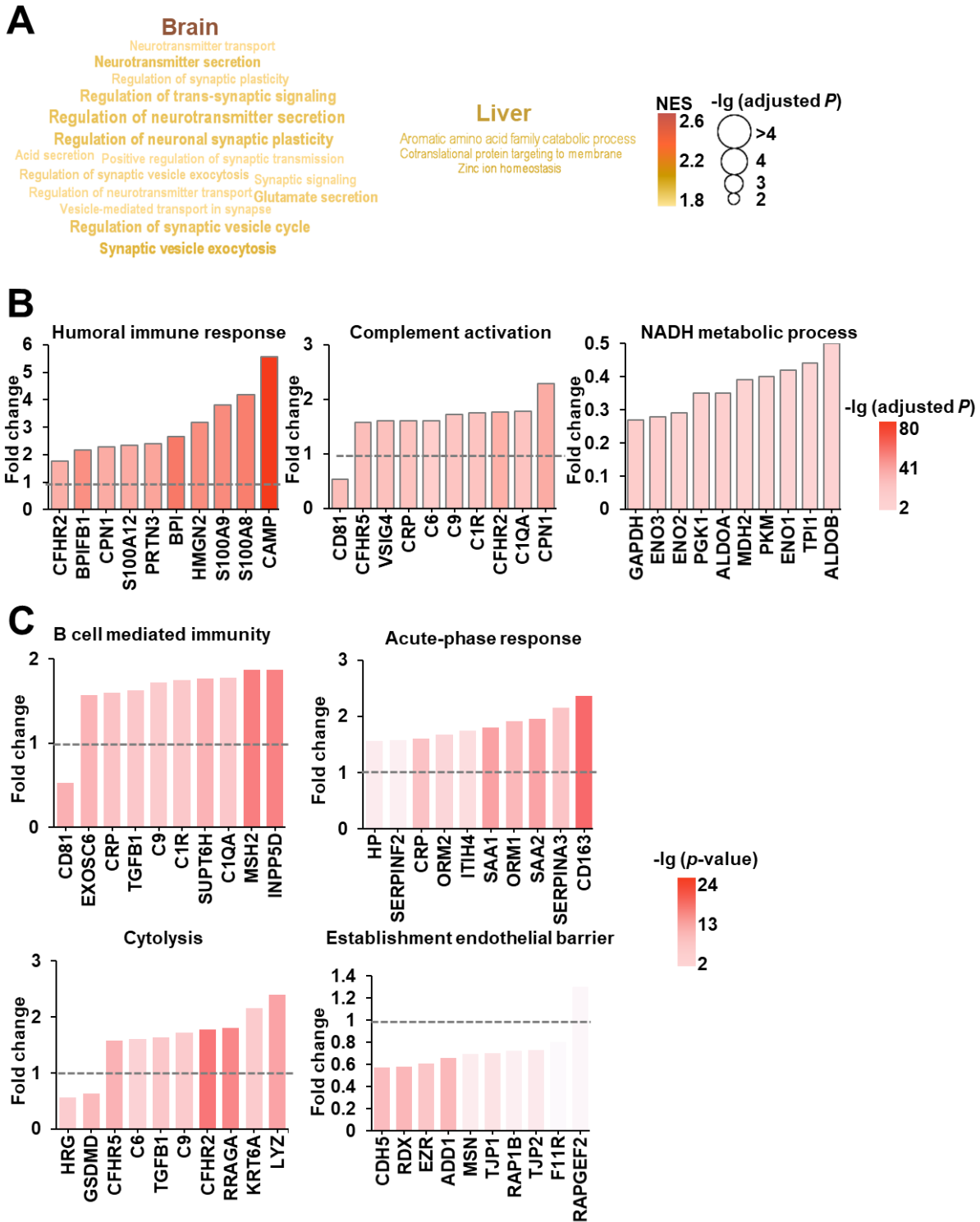


555 median centering normalizations of the HPM proteomic data. **D**, The distribution of protein  
556 expressions of our and HPM data sets before normalization. **E**, The distribution of NPE values of  
557 our and HPM data sets after normalization. **F**, The PCA separation of COVID-19 and normal  
558 tissues, irrespective of the data source. **G-I**, MAP-based identification of potential DEPs in (G)  
559 intestine, (H) brain and (I) heart of postmortem tissues.  
560



562 **Figure S6.** Normalized expression levels of DEPs. **A**, Normalized expression levels of the most  
563 changed DEPs in lungs and other tissues. **B**, Normalized expression levels of 57 DEPs shared by  
564 more than 4 tissues. DEPs were identified by MAP (Adjusted  $p$ -value < 0.05). For tissue types  
565 with multiple samples, the mean  $NPE$  values was calculated for each protein.

566



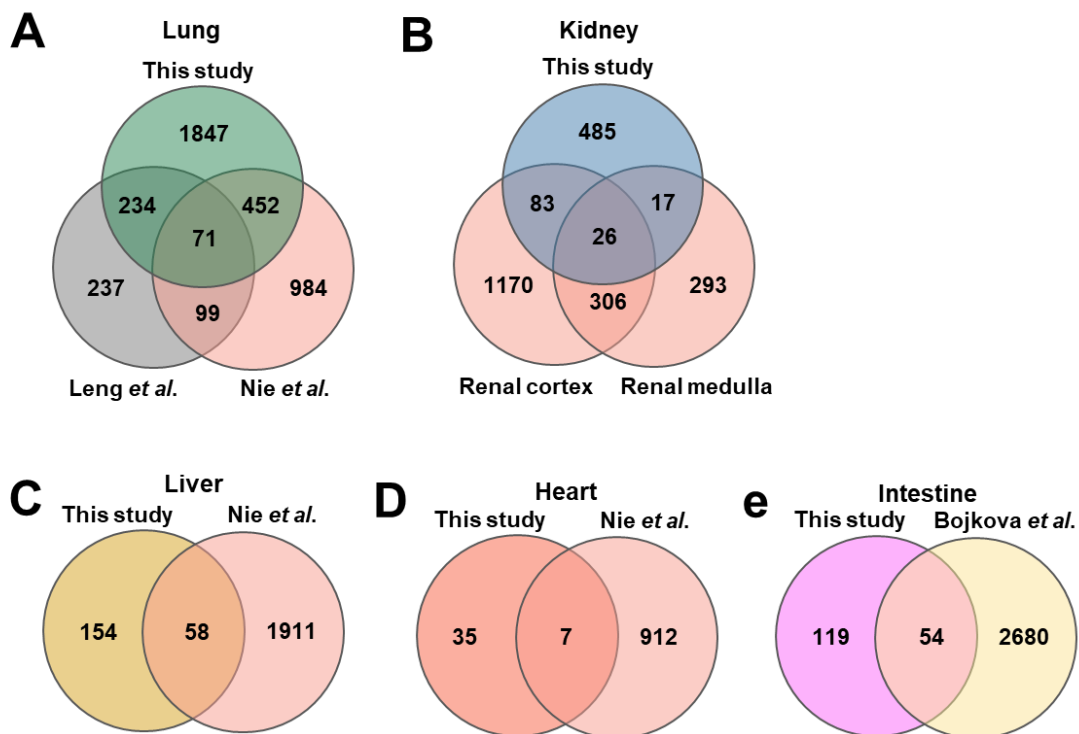
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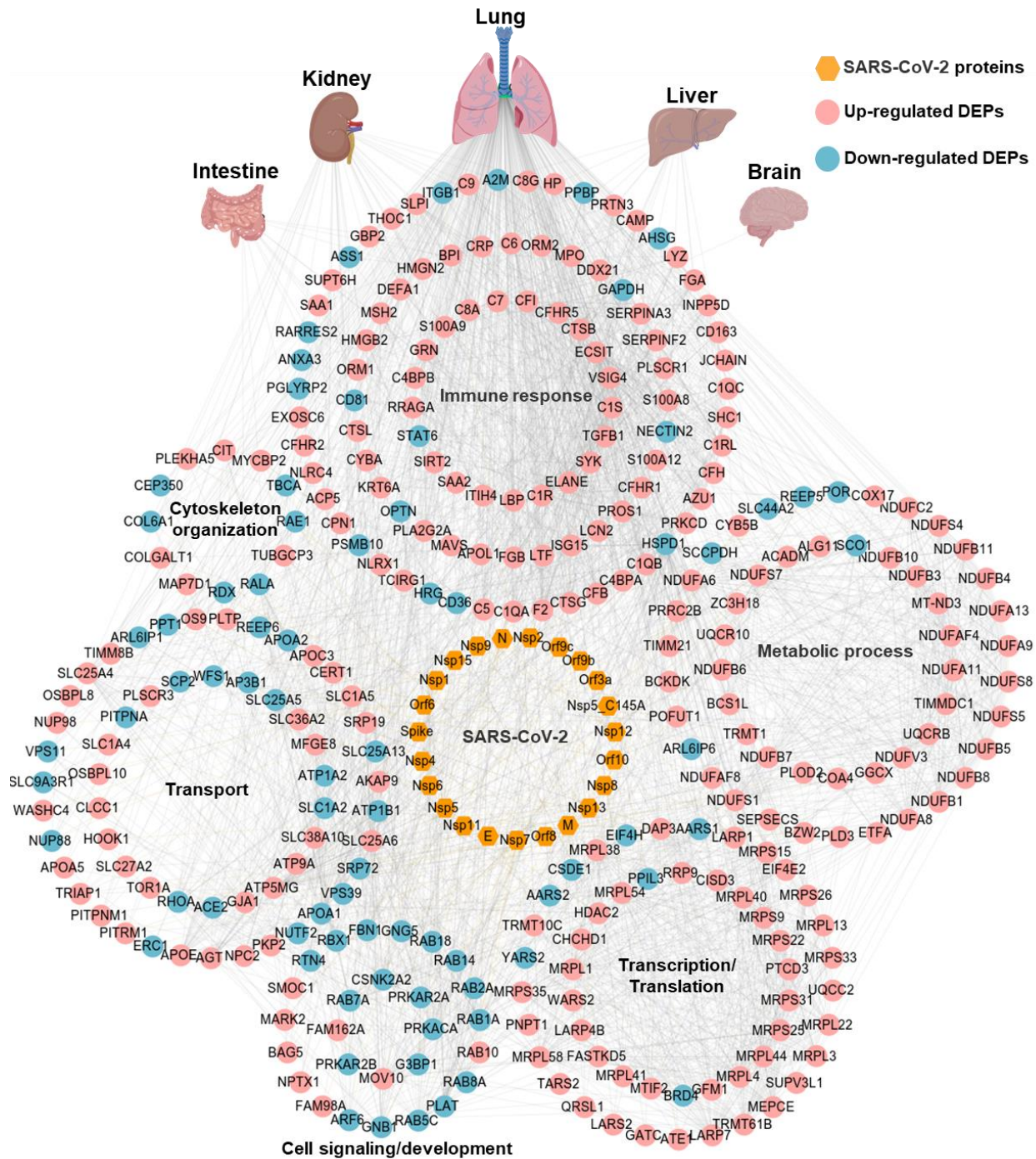
**Figure S7.** Additional analyses of DEPs. **A**, Visualization of up-regulated processes in postmortem brain and liver, using the word cloud illustrator WocEA. **B**, Top 10 mostly changed DEPs in three

570 differentially regulated processes. **C**, Normalized expression levels of lung DEPs in the  
571 differentially regulated processes. GSEA analysis of lung DEPs in additional four processes. The  
572 mean *NPE* values was calculated for each protein.



573  
 574 **Figure S8.** Comparison of the DEPs identified in this study to other published proteomic studies  
 575 [24, 28, 31], including in **A**, lung, **B**, kidney, **C**, liver, **D**, heart, and **E**, intestine. More details were  
 576 shown in Table S9.

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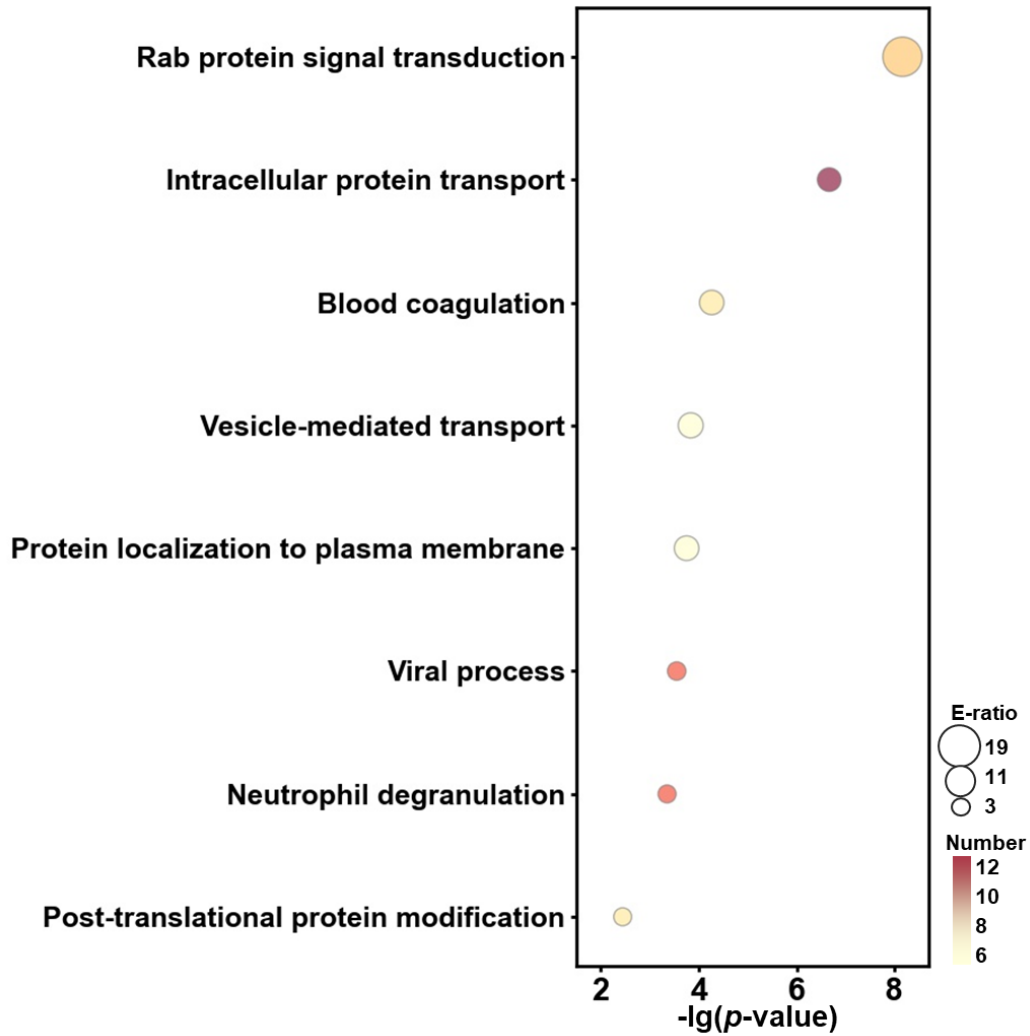
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**Figure S9. A virus-host protein interaction network.** In the network, the 308 up- (pink) and down-regulated (cyan) DEPs in postmortem lung tissues were classified into 6 groups based on their major functions. The PPIs between the 23 SARS-CoV-2 proteins (orange) were shown in yellow links, whereas PPIs between host proteins were shown in grey links.



583

584 **Fig. S10.** GO analysis of 110 SARS-CoV-2 interacting DEPs in lung tissues. GO enrichment

585 analysis of SARS-CoV-2 interacting DEPs. Two-sided hypergeometric test,  $m > 5$ ,  $P$  value  $< 0.01$ .