Editor's Comment:

The authors could add graphical representation according to the reviewers' comments. They do not have to replace data.

Additional comments:

1.   There was no exclusion criteria. For example, Why other comorbidities -such as CVD- known to affect Fetuin-A level are not excluded? Besides, the diseases that affect albuminuria..

2.   Please add Mann-whitney test to "Methods". It is used in the analysis.

3.   Where are baseline characteristics for overall patients and different groups? Where are relevant laboratory values?

4.   Why the authors wrote "fig" 1…etc instead of "table"? and also they removed tables titles?

5.   Please specify the units for different parameters as albuminuria, SrCr,…etc.

6.   Please comment on the following: In the results, correlations appear at one time point and did not persist for any two or three time points. I mean at V0 only…at V6 only. Does this imply that the correlations between two parameters are suggestive (Specifically it was a short term study)?   Compare to the correlation between eGFR and SrCr which were correlated at the three time points.

7.   In "discussion", "Moreover, the strong correlation observed between the FetuinA/creatinine ratio (FCR) and UACR in patients with a shorter diabetes duration mirrors findings by Kumar Bandi et al. (2022), who demonstrated the superior performance of PTM-Fetuin-A over traditional markers like UACR in predicting CKD stages"

How the correlation means "superior" performance of PTM-Fetuin-A?

8.   In fig 3& 4 &5 : the author stated: "A significant positive correlation was also observed between the Fetuin/creatinine ratio (FCR) and UACR, as well as between FCR and eGFR"

 i). the figures represent Fetuin A not FCR.

ii) where is UACR or eGFR in the figures?

iii) the author stated "A significant positive correlation was also observed between the Fetuin/creatinine ratio (FCR) and UACR, as well as between FCR and eGFR, with varying degrees across type 1 and type 2 diabetes and depending on diabetes duration. For example, for V6, a strong correlation was noted between FCR and UACR in patients with a shorter diabetes duration (less than 5 years), with $r = 0.599$ and $p = 0.009$. This finding suggests that increased urinary PTM-Fetuin-A levels are closely related to rising albuminuria, which is a key indicator of kidney damage in diabetic nephropathy. (fig. 3, fig. 4, fig. 5)"

Are these information in the figures?

iv) please comment on the three figure 3 & 4& 5 you provided.

V) What are written in the x axis?

Editor's Details:

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