

**Supplementary Table S1.** Grading and staging of liver biopsies in patients with NAFLD/NASH according to the Brunt score.

	NAFLD (n=10)										NASH (n=11)										P	
Patient	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
Grade	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	4	4	4	4	8	4	4	7	4	7	4	<0.001
Stage	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	4	3	4	3	3	3	4	4	3	<0.001

**Supplementary Table S2.** Grading and staging of liver biopsies in patients with HCV according to the Ishak score.

	HCV-nMet (n=12)												HCV-Met (n=13)												P	
Patient	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	
Grade	7	8	6	7	7	5	6	6	6	7	11	7	9	7	3	5	7	3	10	5	4	8	8	5	9	0.05
Stage	2	5	0	1	3	3	0	0	0	3	5	0	5	5	0	5	4	1	0	3	0	4	0	5	3	0.75

**Supplementary Table S3.** Gene expression of pro-inflammatory cytokines (TNF $\alpha$  and IL-6) and a fibrotic marker (TGF $\beta$ ) in liver biopsies

	NAFLD/NASH			HCV			P*	P**
	All (n=20)	NAFLD (n=9)	NASH (n=11)	All (n=23)	HCV-nMet (n=12)	HCV-Met (n=11)		
TNF $\alpha$	0.52 [0.29-1.13]	0.37 [0.20-0.45]	1.12 [0.52-1.81]	1.43 [0.98-2.33]	1.54 [0.98-3.84] <sup>a</sup>	1.43 [0.82-1.89] <sup>a</sup>	0.003	0.001
IL-6	2.38 [0.98-3.72]	2.38 [2.03-3.42]	2.13 [0.86-4.72]	6.30 [2.71-11.2]	4.11 [2.00-9.19]	8.72 [3.45-12.4]	0.04	0.14
TGF $\beta$	0.37 [0.20-0.76]	0.23 [0.18-0.45]	0.46 [0.35-1.53]	0.42 [0.33-0.74]	0.37 [0.29-1.61]	0.46 [0.41-0.67]	0.16	0.056

Data are reported as median [range].

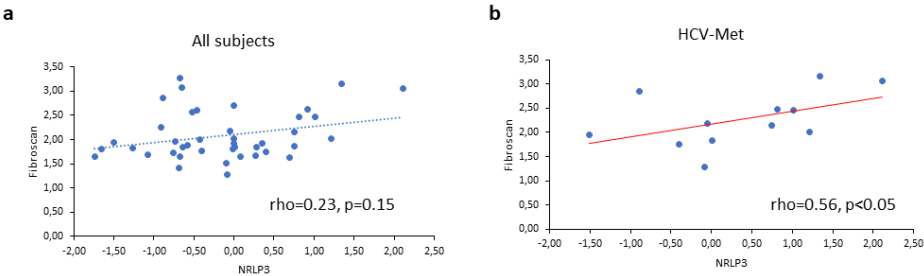
\* p value for the difference between the two main groups (NAFLD/NASH vs HCV).

\*\* p value for the difference between the 4 subgroups (NAFLD, NASH, HCV-nMet, HCV-Met).

<sup>a</sup> p<0.05 for the difference with the NAFLD subgroup.

**Supplementary Table S4.** List of Antibodies

Protein	Antibody Reference	Dilution	Company
P2X7 receptor	APR-004	1:100	Alomone Labs, Jerusalem, Israel
NLRP3	AG-20B-0014	1:200	AdipoGen, San Diego, CA, USA
AIM2	SC-293174	1:50	Santa Cruz Biotech, Dallas, TX, USA



**Supplementary Figure S1** Linear relationship between Fibroscan index and liver NLRP3 expression in all subjects (a) and in the HCV-Met subgroup (b).