Reviewer 2.

Comment 1.

Citation: "*Findings did not show in abstract and novelty is hard to understand*."

Answer: The abstract was totally rewritten in the RM (see comment 1 of Reviewer 4, below). The modified abstract in the RM now summarizes the findings in its section 3 (page 1, line 30 to page 2, line 33).

Comment 2.

Citation: "*Main aim of current study is important in the introduction section*."

Answer: We present the main aim of the study in the modified introduction section (page 3, lines 101 to 104; RM).

Comment 3.

Citation: "*In the last of introduction section, "Fe is a critical micronutrient for trypanosomatids, as previously stated" which needs the reference.*"

Answer: Proper references (# 9–12) have been included after the sentence "*Fe is a critical micronutrient for trypanosomatids, as previously stated"* (page 3, lines 98 to 99); RM).

Comment 4.

Citation: "*In the methods, FeCl3 concentrations (0–75 μM; [37]) used to calculate the Fe content must show the supplier of FeCl3 in clear*."

Answer: The supplier of $FeCl_3$ is provided in the RM (page 4, lines 150 to 151).

Comment 5.

Citation: "*In Table 1, Primer needs the full name in the legends*."

Answer: The modified Table 1 now shows the full name of the primers (page 4; RM).

Comment 6.

Citation: "*Sample size seems too small (N<5) in each group. Therefore, expression of the data shall be the same, particularly the group in column*."

Answer: The RM now presents all the qPCR analysis with a greater number of experiments carried out with different parasite cultures. Please, see Tables 2, 3 and 5 on pages 8, 11 and 14 (RM).

Comment 7.

Citation: "*Figure 9 showed a hypothetical mechanistic model of current findings. What is the contribution in human health? Please describe it in detail.*"

Answer: The contribution in human health is described on page 16, lines 642 to 646 (RM) in the last sentence of the Discussion section.

Comment 8.

Citation: "*In Figure 9, Fe depletion shown in A site seems hard to follow because intracellular Fe was raised. Please check it carefully*."

Answer: We admit that the legend of Fig. 9 in OM (Fig. 6 in RM; see our answer (ix) to comment 4 by Reviewer 1) was unclear with respect to the decrease of intracellular Fe content in epimastigotes grown in IDM. The modified legend of this figure (page 17, lines 674 to 675; RM) now clearly mentions that intracellular Fe content decreased by 50% (Fig. 1B in OM; Table 2 in RM) in epimastigotes grown in iron-depleted medium (panel A). Please, see also our answer to comment 9 by Reviewer 3.