**Supplementary Table 5.** Associations between per log increment of all the biomarkers and risk of type 2 diabetes mellitus

| Variable                | OR (95% CI) per log increment | β Coefficient from model 2 |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
|                         | Model 1                       | Model 2                    |                            |
| TG-to-HDL ratio         | 3.14 (2.31–4.27)              | 2.06 (1.45–2.94)           | 0.72                       |
| ALT                     | 3.32 (2.26–4.86)              | 1.64 (1.05–2.54)           | 0.49                       |
| hs-CRP                  | 1.40 (1.20–1.64)              | 1.19 (0.99–1.42)           | 0.17                       |
| Ferritin                | 1.59 (1.30–1.95)              | 1.32 (1.05–1.67)           | 0.28                       |
| Adiponectin             | 0.18 (0.11–0.30)              | 0.40 (0.23–0.70)           | −0.91                      |
| Fetuin-A                | 1.63 (1.03–2.57)              | 1.11 (0.66–1.87)           | 0.11                       |
| RBP4                    | 1.81 (0.98–3.35)              | 1.09 (0.54–2.22)           | 0.09                       |

OR, odds ratio; CI, confidence interval; TG-to-HDL ratio, the ratio of triglycerides to high density lipoprotein cholesterol; ALT, alanine aminotransferase; hs-CRP, high-sensitivity C-reactive protein; RBP4, retinol-binding protein 4.

*The sample size for all the biomarkers was 485 type 2 diabetes mellitus cases and 485 controls. Cases and controls were matched on age at blood taken (±3 years), sex, dialect, and date of blood collection (±6 months). *Model 1 was calculated using conditional logistic regression model with adjustment for age at blood taken (continuous), smoking (never, ever smoker), alcohol intake (never, weekly, or daily), weekly activity (<0.5, 0.5 to 3.9, and ≥4.0 hr/wk), education level (primary school and below, secondary or above), history of hypertension (yes, no), body mass index (continuous), and fasting status (yes, no). *Model 2: model 1 plus adjustment for all the other biomarkers (per log increment; continuous).