



Supplementary Figure 1. Directed acyclic graphs (DAGs) for the associations between sex (exposure) and kidney outcomes (outcome), as well as between treatment response (exposure) and kidney outcomes (outcome) in patients with lupus nephritis. (A) A DAG shows the hypothesized causal relationship between sex ('▶' in a light green circle), kidney outcomes ('I' in a blue circle), and covariates. Ancestors of the outcome, not the proposed adjustment variables in the model, are indicated by blue circles. There were no proposed variables for adjustments (i.e., confounding factors) determined using DAGitty. (B) A DAG shows the hypothesized causal relationship between treatment response ('▶' in a light green circle), kidney outcomes ('I' in a blue circle), and covariates. The proposed adjustment variables (i.e., confounders) were indicated by white circles. Ancestors of the outcome, not the proposed adjustment variables in the model, are indicated by blue circles.