

Supplementary material

Table S1. Effect of iron supplements on body weight gain, Hb iron and iron intake of mice.

Group	Body weight gain (g)	HbFei (mg)	HbFef (mg)	Mean feed intake (g)	Mean hemoglobin intake (mg)	Total iron intake (mg)
Control group	8.97 ± 1.91 ^a	0.95 ± 0.04 ^a	1.26 ± 0.10 ^a	73.75 ± 9.33 ^a	-	13.40 ± 1.70 ^a
	4.47 ± 1.84 ^c	0.43 ± 0.13 ^b	0.51 ± 0.12 ^e	46.13 ± 3.83 ^c	-	0.41 ± 0.03 ^c
Anemia model group	6.08 ± 1.21 ^{bc}	0.42 ± 0.06 ^b	0.78 ± 0.03 ^d	60.38 ± 3.42 ^b	97.50 ± 9.44 ^b	0.73 ± 0.04 ^c
	7.28 ± 2.16 ^{ab}	0.40 ± 0.07 ^b	1.06 ± 0.07 ^b	63.50 ± 3.74 ^b	1020.63 ± 13.85 ^a	2.50 ± 0.04 ^b
Low dose group	5.75 ± 1.97 ^{bc}	0.37 ± 0.09 ^b	0.92 ± 0.10 ^c	62.38 ± 2.72 ^b	-	2.68 ± 0.36 ^b

Notes: HbFei and HbFef represent the Hb iron before and after iron supplementation period. Different letters within the same column indicate significant difference at the different groups ($p < 0.05$).