Reviewer's report

Title: Low levels of IgM antibodies to oxidized cardiolipin increase and high levels decrease risk of cardiovascular disease among 60-year olds: a prospective study.

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Reviewer: Eiji Matsuura

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The paper by Su et al. contains clinical and basic studies. The reviewer found some major problems in both study fields. Especially, description is really poor and is NOT correctly in many parts.

For examples:

1. The methods for IgG assays are missing. it may be similar to the methods for IGM detection. What is the candidate structure of the epitope recognized by IgG anti-OxLDL? Lipid part? In general, IgG anti-lipid cannot be induced because lipid is TI antigen.

2. Macrophages recognized either OxLDL by their scavenger receptors. In this study, OxCL competed to OxLDL in the binding to the receptors of to antibodies???

3. Did OxCL form what kind of vesicles, ie, micelles, MLV, or others???? Such characterization is important to understand all results from serological ELISA tests and experiments regarding macrophage uptake. Unless the characterization, we cannot get any conclusions.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests’ below.