Reviewer's report

Title: Circulating CD36 and oxLDL levels are associated with cardiovascular risk factors in young subjects: a case-control study.

Version: 1  Date: 25 January 2014

Reviewer: Yasushi Ishigaki

Reviewer's report:

The authors examined the significances of plasma oxidized LDL and CD36 as a marker of metabolic disorders in young subjects in this study. They found significant associations of these parameters with both dyslipidemia and obesity-related values. The important aspect of this report was its focus on young subjects and the novel finding was the association between plasma oxLDL and the count of monocytes. However, this study had several major problems.

Major

1. The authors found significant associations of plasma oxidized LDL or CD36 with both dyslipidemia and obesity-related values. However, it was already reported that plasma concentration of oxLDL and CD36 were associated with obesity-related values. While this is first report in young subjects, the authors should discuss the novel aspects of this study. In addition, the influence of adiposity should be more addressed.

2. The results concerned with monocytes were interesting. Thus, the authors should present the data of differential leukocyte count and hisensitive CRP, if possible.

3. The sample size was rather small, especially in obese subjects.

4. In the part "Discussion", both first and second paragraph, which is discussed about hypertension and dyslipidemia, were not important issues in this study. Thus, these paragraphs would be shortened or eliminated.

Minor

5. The statistical significance of DBP in Table 1 should be re-examined.

6. In table 1, the value of TC, 160 mg/dL, was thought to be low, since the value of HDL-C was 44 and LDL-C was 117, respectively.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.