Reviewer’s report

Title: Weak Up-regulation of Serum Response Factor in Gastric Ulcers in Patients with Co-morbidities is Associated with Increased Risk of Recurrent Bleeding

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Reviewer: Jianyuan Chai

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The study compared SRF expression in human gastric ulcerated tissues vs. normal by immunohistochemistry and found SRF up-regulation in ulcers regardless of what caused ulcers. The study also demonstrated that recurrent ulcer bleeding rate is increased comorbidities and low expression of SRF and both factors are independent but synergistic. Up-regulation of SRF in ulcers is known in animal model, while this study examined human biopses, which is more clinical relevant.

Minors:
1. In the last sentence of the discussion, authors hope in the future study SRF can be measured in the serum instead of tissue staining. Unfortunately, that is impossible. SRF is a transcription factor. It cannot be measured by serum check-up.
2. In multiple places of the text, authors say 'SRF expression on gastric ulcer tissues', it should be 'in gastric tissues'.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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