Reviewer's report

Title: Different healing process of esophageal large mucosal defects by endoscopic mucosal dissection between with and without steroid injection in an animal model

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Reviewer: Satoshi Ono

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This manuscript is written about histopathological process forming postoperative stricture after esophageal ESD with and without local injection of steroid. It seems very interesting and helpful for further investigation about prevention of postoperative stricture. However, it has some problems before acceptance in its present form.

Major point:
1. A number of pig with local injection of steroid is too small. It seems preferable to treat more pigs with local injection of steroid. If authors want to evaluate histopathological effect of steroid local injection, specimen of pigs one and three weeks after ESD with steroid local injection is necessary.
2. Was it necessary to treat pigs with circumferential ESD? To evaluate only histopathological changes after ESD, circumferential ESD is not necessarily required. Authors could have evaluated more specimens from a single pig if they had performed multisessions of focal ESDs in a single pig.

Minor point:
1. A pig with steroid local injection underwent multiple sessions of balloon dilatations. Balloon dilatations might have effects upon histopathological assessment of specimen from this pig.
2. It is preferable to show quantitative pathological findings as graphs in chronological order.
3. It seems unusual that diameter of GIF-Q240 is written in Result section, not in Material and Method section.
4. Please mention recommendation about timing or dosage of steroid injection to prevent postoperative stricture if possible.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.