Reviewer's report

Title: Heat Shock Protein-27, -60 and -90 expression in gastric cancer: association with clinicopathological variables and patient survival

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Reviewer: Gabriele Multhoff

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BMC Gastroenterology
MS by Stamatios Theocharis

The findings in the Ms reveal an association of Hsp27, 60 and 90 expression in gastric cancer (n=66) with clinicopathological parameters. The data are predominantly based on immunohistochemical studies.

In the discussion part the authors also include data from Hsp70 analyses, however these data are not shown as results in the manuscript.

The data are important with respect to the identification of new prognostic markers. However, the Ms would improve by including some additional informations

Figure 1: Could data of stainings with isotype-matched control antibodies be included

Is it possible to show data for Hsp70 and Hsp40 immunohistochemical analyses.

What is the association between intracellular and extracellular HSPs.

Is it possible to show examples of high and low expression of the HSPs in comparison.

Did the authors measure the HSPs in the serum of the patients and if so is there a link between intracellular and extracellular HSP levels.

Discussion: Could the authors provide some more ideas about the physiological role of the increased HSP levels in gastric cancer.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests