Reviewer's report

Title: Macroscopic Extent of Gastric Mucosal Atrophy: Increased Risk Factor for Esophageal Squamous Cell Carcinoma in Japan

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Reviewer: Elfriede Bollschweiler

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Review for BMC gastroenterology

Title: Macroscopic Extent of Gastric Mucosal Atrophy: Increased Risk Factor for Esophageal Squamous Cell Carcinoma in Japan.

Authors: Tomoyuki Akiyama et al.

The above mention manuscript is a case-control study analyzing the macroscopic extent of gastric mucosal atrophy as risk factor for esophageal squamous cell carcinoma. The authors compared the endoscopic figures of 253 patients with esophageal cancer with those of 253 age- and sex matched controls. The results show very clearly the relations between gastric atrophy and esophageal cancer. The paper is well written and the statistic is adequate for this question.

My conclusion, this is a good manuscript with an interesting topic and should be published.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests