Reviewer’s report

Title: Glomerular tip adhesions predict the progression of IgA nephropathy

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Reviewer: Nobuo Tsuboi

Reviewer’s report:

Comment to the authors:

The authors aimed to evaluate the impact glomerular tip adhesion on renal prognosis and analyze the relationship between the lesion and clinicopathological factors in patients with IgA nephropathy. The subjects included in this study are 57 patients with a histological diagnosis of IgA nephropathy, of which 9 are those with glomerular tip adhesion. As a result of multivariate analysis, the authors identified glomerular tip adhesion as one of the independent factors that associated with the renal prognosis. A comparison between the patients with glomerular tip adhesion and those without glomerular tip adhesion showed that the glomerular tip adhesion group had higher serum total cholesterol and higher annual decrease of eGFR, though initial eGFR was the same between the groups. Based on these findings, the authors concluded that the glomerular tip adhesion at the time of biopsy predicts the prognosis of IgA nephropathy. The results are interesting and may prove a novel mechanism of renal injuries in IgA nephropathy. However, the reviewer does not think that the results are enough power to support author’s hypothesis, because the sample size, especially the patients with glomerular tip adhesion, is too small.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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