Reviewer's report

Title: High number of CD45RO+ tumor infiltrating lymphocytes is an independent prognostic factor in non-metastasized (stage I-IIA) esophageal adenocarcinoma

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Reviewer: Hans Nijman

Reviewer's report:

Rauser and others have performed a study on tumor infiltrating lymphocytes in Barrett's cancer. Tumor tissue using a TMA of more than 100 patients were tested for the presence of T cells, CTL and memory T cells. The main conclusion, CD45RO positive T cells are an independent prognostic factor, support further research in the field of tumorimmunology of Barrett's cancer.

The questions asked were well defined, and methods well described. Conclusions are supported by sound data and relevant literature is mentioned in the discussion part of this manuscript.

Personally, I would not include data showing "a trend for an association" as brought forward on page 8 and 10. What is the limit for a trend?

In my view this will written paper is acceptable for publication.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'