Reviewer's report

Title: Stage and Tissue-Specific Prognostic Impact of miR-182 in NSCLC

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Reviewer: Haiquan Chen

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In this study, Stenvold and colleagues examined 335 unselected stage I to IIIA NSCLC carcinomas for MiR182 expression and evaluated its prognostic value. The authors also examined the association between Mir182 expression and angiogenic and hypoxia factors. The paper is interesting and written very well in English. I have some comments:

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. The authors are not very explicit about their criteria for the diagnosis of lung adenocarcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma. How was a distinction made between adeno and squamous? Have the authors used IHC bio-markers (TTF1, P63 et al.) to confirm the diagnosis of adeno and squamous? More description here would be helpful.

2. It would be preferable to show typical pictures of tumor with negative/positive staining for FGF2, HIF2, MMP7 in the figure.

3. The authors did not show any information on the adjuvant treatment, which may affect the survival difference between patients whose tumor showed high miRNA-182 expression and patients with low miRNA-182 expression in their tumors. To clarify this limitation, the authors should provide the information on adjuvant chemotherapy for NSCLC patients.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. The authors should remove any unsubstantiated claims concerning targeted therapies; this was not the goal of this manuscript. As the authors mentioned, “there still is a way to go before they will enter the clinic”. As a matter of fact, current studies demonstrated that miRNAs still cannot be served as therapeutic targets.

2. It has been well known that lots of factors, such as oncogenic gene mutations, amplification or expression, could be used to predict drug responses and outcome for patients with NSCLC. What is the advantage of miRNAs to be used as prognostic markers?

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

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.