Reviewer's report

Title: Histopathology-Based Prognostic Score is Independent Prognostic Factor of Gastric Carcinoma

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Reviewer: Anna Karlsson

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Minor Essential Revisions

The manuscript by Zhu et al. thoroughly analyzes the clinical data and proposed clinicopathological characteristics of mixed and pure forms in gastric histology type, based on their findings and multivariate analysis, they established a histological scoring system to predict prognosis of patients with gastric carcinoma. Although it is well known that T and N stage are independent factors of prognosis, this study did provide some interesting findings especially the prognostic score for early stage in gastric cancer. The manuscript is well composed, in my opinion, the manuscript may be accepted for publication after minor revisions. But, the following comments should be addressed.

1. Prognostic score for early stage in gastric cancer is the key findings of the manuscript, some background or related researches should be mentioned in the Introduction.

2. Page 4, in the Method part, it contains numerous grammatical and poor word choices, as well as the usage of scientific terms should be improved.

3. Page 5, Line 138, the authors used z-statistic to determine the individual levels of each categorical variable, however, I did not see the analysis in the results, that should be specified.

4. Line 123, ‘the score is multiplied by 2 to get the final score’, why multiplied by 2, is there any test or analysis to prove the method?

5. Page 6, Line 157, does ‘H grading’ mean histological grading? The abbreviation should be referred, stage ‘1, 2, 3, 4’ are not standard scientific terms, ‘#, #, #’ could be better.

6. Page 8, Line 221, in the Discussion part, the sentence is misunderstanding and not be fully discussed, there is several variables which present the prognosis in early stage of gastric cancer, such as small mucosal, superficial, Pen A and Pen B, the author should compare the score system with the previous published approaches in identifying the prognosis of gastric cancer.

7. In Fig. 1, some images have low resolution, the image also should be added with a normal gastric tissue.

8. In Fig. 2(BC), the legends show the opposite meanings with the picture.
**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**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