Reviewer’s report

Title: Clinical and Biological Significance of STAT1 in Esophageal Squamous Cell Carcinoma

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Reviewer: Li Dong Wang

Reviewer’s report:

1. Authors should provide the immunohistochemistry work on the matched normal esophageal epithelial tissue, which is of important in assessing the significance of STAT1 expression in esophageal carcinogenesis.

2. Authors should describe in detail if they use the same antibody for immunohistochemistry and Western blot. Again, in Table 1, it should be addressed for relationship of the negative immunostaining cases and Western blot results.

3. It seem that the positive immunostaining rate is very high in this study (123 of 131, 93.8%), authors should explain the possible mechanism, and again, if only 8 of 131 cases with negative for immunostaining, is it logical to conclude “patients with STAT1-strong/weak tumors had a significantly longer survival compared to those with STAT1-negative tumors”?