Reviewer's report

**Title:** Should tumor depth be included in prognostication of soft tissue sarcoma? Minor prognostic value of tumor depth in a population-based series of 490 patients with soft tissue sarcomas of the extremity and trunk wall

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**Reviewer:** Binh N BUI

**Level of interest:** A paper whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Advice on publication:** Accept after discretionary revisions

This article adress the problem of prognostication in soft tissue sarcomas, a domain still controversial, with its potential consequences in therapeutical decisions for the patients. The paper is well written; methodology used and data are correctly presented. The main conclusion is that combination of 2 variables, tumor grade and tumor size allows a correct prediction of prognostic in these diseases and that the adjunction of tumor depth, as proposed for example in the last WHO classification is not essential.

Some remarks can be done.
1 the selection of patients is questionnable. True superficial sarcomas have been deliberately discarded. It would be interesting to know the results on the same analysis including these tumors.
2 is the difference in survival found between superficial and deep, high grade, large tumors significant?
3 the cut of size at 5 cm at been disputed in the litterature. As the analysis consider other cuts. What was the median tumor sizes for superficila and for deep tumor?

**Competing interests:**

None declared.