Reviewer's report

Title: Chromogranin A Is a Reliable Serum Diagnostic Biomarker for Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumors but Not for Insulinomas

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Reviewer: Alexios S Strimpakos

Reviewer's report:

1. Major Compulsory Revision. This work addresses a significant clinical question and the researchers should be congratulated for their effort. Nevertheless, there is a crucial imbalance between the supposed comparators (insulinomas and non-insulinomas) which is the differences in the stage of the disease. Only 1 out of the 53 patients with insulinomas appeared to have metastatic/unresectable disease as opposed to 17 out of 26 patients with Non-Insulinoma. This difference might encounter the lower plasma level of ChrA in insulinomas (pre and post operatively) despite similar to non-insulinomas expression levels. I would suggest authors to compare subgroups with non metastatic disease, as there is only 1 patient with metastatic insulinoma, insufficient for comparison.

Taking the above into account, one can assume that the sample sizes will be small to draw safe conclusions, but it will be a step to the right direction

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests