Reviewer's report

Title: What factors predict recurrence of a spontaneous pneumothorax?

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Reviewer: Takayuki Kosaka

Reviewer's report:

The authors reviewed the cohort of 214 patients with spontaneous pneumothorax, and compared the clinicopathological characteristics between recurrent and non-recurrent cases. They conclude that a history of no smoking, the existence of comorbidities, previous surgery for ISP, and hand stitching increase the risk of postoperative recurrence.

I have the following comment.

Minor Essential Revisions
1. The different font and thickness are used in Table 1 and 2. The same font should be used.

Discretionary Revisions
1. The explanation for the results of logistic regression analysis needs more details (Tables 6 and 7). To specify the explanation on univariate analysis and multivariate analysis separately is desirable.

2. The frequencies of the recurrences in each comorbidity are different, but it is not discussed enough (Table 2). The further discussion about the comorbidity is desirable.

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.