Reviewer's report

Title: Serum IL8 is not associated with cardiovascular events but with all-cause mortality

Version: 0 Date: 05 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Mateusz Siedliński

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Velásquez and colleagues investigated association between IL8 levels and cancer-cardiovascular- and all cause-related mortality as well as with cardiovascular events in the relatively well powered cohort. Although lack of association with disease specific mortality risk is reported, the study may be valuable for future epidemiological studies linking inflammatory status to cardiovascular- and-cancer-related deaths and events.

Comment to the authors:

- Table 1 needs some improvements i.e. please depict percentages (quartile based) for categorical variables and provide statistics (e.g. chi-square or ANOVA) concerning associations between IL8 quartiles and variables depicted

- Kaplan-Meier curves should be presented for all outcomes analysed

- Power calculation should be provided in order to get estimates of effect sizes that may be detected in the studied population

- Please provide values of IL8 level thresholds for quartiles in table 1
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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