Reviewer's report

Title: Gene Expression Profiling of Laterally Spreading Tumors

Version: 2
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Reviewer: Masanobu Takahashi

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Major Compulsory Revisions
Minemura et al. have analyzed the gene expression profiling of 41 colorectal tumors including 17 laterally spreading tumor-type (LST-type) adenomas, 12 LST-carcinomas, and 12 Ip adenomas, and have found that the five genes, AKT1, BCL2L1, ERBB2, MTA2, and TNFRSF25, were significantly up-regulated in LST adenomas compared to Ip adenomas. They have also confirmed that BCL2L1 proteins were significantly up-regulated in another small cohort of 38 patients with LST adenoma. The study may provide additional data that could help to clarify molecular mechanisms underlying the oncogenesis of this specific tumor type, LST. However, I feel that the paper shows only preliminary results for the expressions of some genes and proteins using a quite small number of patients, and lacks mechanistic experiments to support their hypothesis.

Level of interest: An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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.