Reviewer’s report

Title: Identification of the soluble form of tyrosine kinase receptor Axl as a potential biomarker for intracranial aneurysm rupture

Version: 2  Date: 14 January 2015

Reviewer: Joe Moxon

Reviewer’s report:

Dear editor and authors - thanks again for the opportunity to read the revised manuscript. In general the authors have responded to my comments well however I feel that major critique 4 has not been addressed. Notably, the ambiguous sentence 'However, if a protein .... displayed a significant decrease in RIA.. but an increase in UIA.., we would not only consider this protein unique to RIA but also to UIA' appears to be unchanged.

Given that the authors are using this as an example of how they categorised proteins (an important premise of the study), I believe that it is vital that this is clarified completely. As before, I don't understand how something can be truly unique to 2 things. Do the authors mean that the protein may be a 'marker of RIA and UIA'?

I would class this as a minor essential revision that needs to be made to make the paper ready for publication.

No other comments to make.

Thanks

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.