Reviewer’s report

Title: Elevated plasma D-dimer levels are associated with short-term poor outcome in patients with acute ischemic stroke: a prospective, observational study

Version: 1 Date: 29 Apr 2019

Reviewer: Brooks McPhail

Reviewer's report:

The following study evaluated the correlation between D-dimer and acute ischemic stroke (AIS). The study was conducted to determine if D-dimer could be used as a biomarker for AIS patient. It concluded that there is a correlation between D-dimer and AIS. It is evident that the authors conducted an extensive study; however, the review has a few questions regarding the information presented:

Reviewers response:

1. In the background section of the manuscript, the authors mentioned the Chinese population. In the method section under the Study population and Demographic and clinical assessment the authors did not state the demographics of the population. The reviewer suggests defining the population that was used (i.e., Chinese, Japanese, etc.)? Please explain.

2. The reviewer suggest that the authors define all of the acronyms used throughout the manuscript the first time they are mentioned and in the note section of all of the tables and graphs presented. For example, what is NIHSS score? Please explain.

3. Were you able to compare the D-dimer levels in a healthy population?

4. In the statistical analysis, the authors did not provide standard error/deviation for many of the values that was presented (i.e., NIHSS on admission, systolic pressure, diastolic pressure, FBG, etc.). The reviewer suggest that the authors include this information as needed.
5. The reviewer suggest that the author provide the number of patients presented in each quartile.

6. The review suggest that the authors describe the message that they want the reader to see in figure 1? Please explain.

7. The reviewer suggest that the authors check their spelling throughout the paper.

**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.

Unable to assess

**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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Needs some language corrections before being published
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