Reviewer's report

Title: LC3B globular structures correlate with survival in esophageal adenocarcinoma

Version: 1 Date: 19 June 2015

Reviewer: Takaaki Arigami

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Major Compulsory Revisions
1) 104 naïve patients and 48 patients treated with neoadjuvant therapy were enrolled in this study. The authors should indicate the indication of neoadjuvant therapy in Methods section.

2) Please indicate the relationship between LC3B staining patterns and other clinicopathological findings such as depth of tumor invasion, lymph node metastasis, and distant metastasis in Table 3.

3) In the present study, 48 patients receiving neoadjuvant therapy were enrolled. How about the relationship between LC3B staining patterns and therapeutic effects of chemoradiotherapy?

4) This study demonstrated that cytoplasmic LC3B pattern was significantly related with a favorable prognosis. On the other hand, globular staining pattern was correlated with a poor prognosis. These results means the inverse malignant behavior. The authors should discuss about these findings, including the oncological viewpoint, in Discussion section.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I have no competing interests.