Reviewer's report

Title: Validation of a high level of apolipoprotein A1 is a favorable factor for prognosis survival in esophageal squamous cell carcinoma

Version: 3 Date: 10 July 2015

Reviewer: Michael J Thomas

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript reports on an interesting observation that higher plasma levels of apoA-I or HDL-C have been associated with improved survival. The authors propose that high levels of plasma apoA-I at diagnosis would be associated with improved survival from esophageal squamous cell carcinoma. This is a statistical study in which measures of various lipid parameters were correlated with survival. The methods are well described and they showed reduced survival was correlated with lower levels of apoA-I and with alcohol consumption. Overall the article was reasonably well written, easy to understand and the figures clearly presented the results. The limitations to the work are that it is correlative with no mechanism and like other articles of this type is only a starting point for more definitive studies. This is a general fault of studies into the role of apoA-I and survival after cancer diagnosis. There are a few minor grammatical errors that spell check should catch.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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.