Reviewer’s report

Title: Preoperative systemic inflammation score (SIS) is superior to neutrophil to lymphocyte ratio (NLR) as a predicting indicator in patients with esophageal squamous cell carcinoma

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Reviewer: Takaaki Arigami

Reviewer’s report:

The authors demonstrated the clinical impact of preoperative systemic inflammation score (SIS) in patients with esophageal squamous cell carcinoma (ESCC). There are some queries and comments.

Comments

1. There are many mistakes (P-value in univariate analysis). Please confirm.

2. In Table 2, NLR was not correlated with well-known prognostic factors, such as the N stage and Stage (P=0.266 and P=0.109, respectively). However, NLR is one of representative blood markers for predicting tumor progression in patients with various malignancies, including ESCC. How do the authors discuss about these results?

3. In Table 2, the statistical relationship between SIS and N stage should be indicate as P-value.

4. In Table 2, SIS was not correlated with T stage, N stage and stage (P=0.102, P=?, and P=0.117, respectively). However, SIS, T stage, and N stage are independent prognostic indicators in multivariate analysis (Table 3). How do the authors discuss about these results?

5. Serum CEA and SCC are useful blood markers for the clinical management of patients with ESCC. How about the relationship between these serum markers and NLR or SIS?

6. In the present study, AUC was indicated for setting the optimal cutoff value. AUC for NLR, LMR, and Alb was 0.566, 0.576, and 0.578. These results suggest low accuracy. How do the authors discuss about these results?

7. ROC curve should be indicated as Figure.

8. P-value for NLR should be indicated in multivariate analysis (Table 3).

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.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

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 am able to assess the statistics

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Needs some language corrections before being published

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