Reviewer’s report

Title: Rectal aberrant crypt foci (ACF) as a predictor of benign and malignant neoplastic lesions in the large intestine

Version: 1 Date: 26 Jan 2019

Reviewer: Tsuyoshi Konishi

Reviewer's report:

This study investigated the correlation between the rectal ACF and neoplastic lesions in the large intestine. The authors showed that a larger number of ACF was concurrent with adenomas and hyperplastic polyps, and that the number of ACF correlated with the dysplasia progression in the adenoma and the number of polyps.

First of all, the findings in this study are nothing in this field. At least the results need more statistical analyses.

Comments are below.

1. In Figure 1, 2, and 5, there were no statistical analyses.

2. In Figure 3, the authors described "When the size of the adenoma is greater than 10 mm, the probability of an occurrence of a greater number of rectal ACF increases, which is especially evident in the case of the number of ACF&gt;10". "When the number of rectal ACF is greater, the probability of an occurrence of a greater diameter of adenoma increases" was seemed to be desirable.

3. In Figure 1 (and 5), the authors described "rectal, sigmoid, transversal, and right colon", but generally right colon contains ascending and transvers colon. Were there no descending colon polyps?

4. Figure 4 seemed to be an excerpt of Figure 1. But, the percentage of adenoma and hyperplastic polyp in Figure 4 looks different from that in Figure 1.

5. A bar graph was preferable to line graph in Figure 4.

6. In References, No.6 and No.14, No.11 and No.29 were same ones.

7. In References, year was incomplete in No.5.

8. In Figure 1, the legend of "hypeplastic" should be "hyperplastic".

9. The authors sometimes described the number and the percentage, "n=oo, p=oo". But, "n=oo, oo%" was preferable as the description of the percentage of number.
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.

No

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

No

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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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