Reviewer’s report

Title: Overexpression of EMMPRIN is associated with lymph node metastasis and advanced stage of non-small cell lung cancer: a retrospective study

Version: 1 Date: 03 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Daniel Ajona

Reviewer's report:

Liu et al. present a paper that aims to describe the association of EMMPRIN expression with NSCLC clinical features, could be relevant given the current level of the role of EMMPRIN in cancer. The ideas within the paper are both supported by and consistent with the literature. However there is a lack of novelty in the results described in the manuscript as the expression of EMMPRIN in cancer has been extensively studied.

Expression and its relationship with clinical features of cancer patients has been extensively studied.

Major comments

1. Increased levels of EMMPRIN in serum from NSCLC patients should be validated in an independent/further serie.

2. For a better visualization, the positive correlation reported for serum and tissue expression of EMMPRIN in lung cancer specimens should be presented as a dot blot graph.

3. Which statistical test was used to assess the normality of data distribution?

Minor comments

1. I would change "healthy individuals" for "Controls" because many of these individuals are smokers.

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.

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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