Reviewer’s report

Title: Impact of ABO blood group on the prognosis of patients undergoing surgery for esophageal cancer

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Reviewer: Hasan Batirel

Reviewer’s report:

The authors discuss the impact of ABO blood groups on overall survival in esophageal cancer. The paper is well written, however there are important problems with the paper. My comments are below.

1. The authors state that they found no difference in disease free and overall survival between ABO groups.
2. In univariate analysis, while, T stage, lymph nodes metastasis, TNM stage, postoperative adjuvant treatment, vascular invasion, perioperative blood transfusion were significant, ABO groups were not. However the authors state that in multivariate it was significant. Non-significant factors in univariate analysis should not be included in multivariate analysis, thus this significance in not valid.
3. The authors can write a paper with a negative message, that is ABO groups have no effect on survival.
4. The authors can only include middle and lower Squamous cell carcinomas which would be a more homogenous population. Upper 1/3 rd esophageal carcinomas are usually treated with chemoradiation and have similar results to Surgery and their lymphatic spread pattern also different than middle and lower third tumors.
5. A table can be done for survival data, rather than stating them separately in the text.
6. Number of metastatic lymph nodes and total no of retrieved lymph nodes should also be included in uni and multivariate analysis, as both are proved prognostic factors.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

None