Reviewer’s report


Version: 1 Date: 04 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Torben Glatz

Reviewer's report:

I would like to thank the authors for the detailed changes to the manuscript, which have improved the paper a great deal. I have one further remark considering my previous comments:

I believe that prtherapeutic endoscopic ultrasound is a valuable tool to detect Lymphnode involmenent and absolutely necessary as is a preoperative CT. These methods were obviously not used routinely in the center, which partially explains the high LN invement in T1 cancer. The Survival of these patients however can be improved by perioperative chemotherapy as has been published. The Authors should include a section in the methods and discussion explaining their preoperative staging methods and the possible impact on their results. The results of the center demonstrates the importance of an accurate preoperative staging, which should be acknowledged in the discussion.

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 am able to assess the statistics
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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