Reviewer’s report

Title: Perioperative dynamics and significance of plasma-free amino acid profiles in colorectal cancer

Version: 0 Date: 13 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Suguru Hasegawa

Reviewer’s report:

In this paper, the authors compared the value and rank of the AICS (AminoIndex Cancer Screening) before and after surgery. They have clarified that the AICS rank and value had declined postoperatively in the majority of the cases that had high preoperative level. They had concluded that AICS might be a good biomarker in the management of colorectal cancer. Although this paper provides us important information about the significance of AICS, I feel there remain some issues to be solved in this paper.

1. I feel that when considering the efficacy of AICS for as biomarker, the data regarding the recurrent status of the tumor is necessary.

2. The authors examined the significance of AICS using subgroup analysis, but the number of each group is relatively small to draw any conclusion (e.g., sidedness, histology).

3. I’m interested in the data of the patients with preoperative rank A (excluded from this analysis). Could you show us the data of this group?

4. The discussion section seems to be redundant.

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

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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