Reviewer's report

Title: Prognostic significance of the combination of preoperative hemoglobin and albumin levels and lymphocyte and platelet counts (HALP) in patients with renal cell carcinoma after nephrectomy

Version: 0 Date: 09 Oct 2017

Reviewer: James Hsieh

Reviewer's report:

It is a single institute report on a new prognostic platform (HALP) by Peng et al. HALP is likely reflecting nutritional status. Overall, it is of interests since all these parameters are easily obtained on most RCC patients.

Major comments
1. (Abstract) It is very erroneous to state HALP is better than TNM without validation and controlled for all variables, which needs to be removed. They should check if HALP further subcategorize TNM, which would be of value.
2. (Background line 11) A contemporary RCC review such as Hsieh et al. Nature Reviews Dis Primer 2017 (PMID 28276433) is needed.
3. (Background line 27) A recent report by Senbabaoglu et al. on RCC immune signature and clinical outcome Genome Biology 2016 (PMID 27855702) should be cited.
4. It is sarcomatoid transformation, not sarcomatous...
5. SSIGN, please cite the original paper or the RCC review.

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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