Reviewer's report

Title: Lymphatic marker podoplanin/D2-40 in human advanced cirrhotic liver-
Reevaluations of microlymphatic abnormalities

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Reviewer: Armin Thelen

Reviewer's report:

The present manuscript describes a study about the specificity of the monoclonal
antibody D2-40 to stain lymphatic vessels in human liver tissue. Furthermore, it
analyzes the quantity of lymphatic vessels in normal and cirrhotic liver
specimens. In general, the subject of the manuscript is interesting and it is well
structured and well written. However, there are some issues which may be
addressed prior to publication.

Minor:
1. The most criticism of the study is the low number of analyzed tissue
   specimens (only 5 in each group). That is not important for the analyzation of the
   specificity of the antibody but it is a disadvantage for the analyzation and the
   comparison of the vessel density between the different study groups. Therefore, it
   may be helpful to address this shortcoming of the study in the discussion section

2. First paragraph of the section “Materials and methods”: It is not clear to me
   which groups of tissue specimens come from patients who underwent resection
   and who underwent liver transplantation as both are described as tissues from
   cirrhotic livers. Authors may specify this.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely
related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a
statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests