

Reviewer 1

This is an interesting study about the value of SMI in predicting the ischemic stroke in patients with carotid atherosclerotic plaques. In this study, the patients with carotid atherosclerotic plaques were enrolled. The authors analyzed the patient's clinical baseline data, serological data, CEUS and SMI data. The follow-up endpoint was the occurrence of ischemic stroke and patients were divided into stroke group and non-stroke group according to whether the prognosis occurred or not. And aslo, the authors compared the difference in clinical data, analyzed the correlation of SMI and CEUS. The authors found that there was a positive correlation between SMI level and EI, and as the SMI level gradually increased, the incidence of ischemic stroke increased gradually. They concluded that the SMI could be used as a non-invasive method of screening for unstable plaques and helps prevent ischemic stroke. Overall, this study is well designed and the results are very interesting. The data are listed in detail in the tables. References are updated and well discussed. A minor language revision is required.

Response: Dear reviewer, thanks for your support and kindly suggestion. We have proofread the language.

Reviewer 2

Interesting study about the value of superb micro-vascular imaging in predicting ischemic stroke in patients with carotid atherosclerotic plaques. The manuscript is well written. 1 title reflects the main subject of the manuscript; 2 the manuscript describe methods in adequate detail; 3 the research objectives are achieved by the experiments used in this study; 4 the results are well discussed with a updated reference list; 5 the follow-up of the patients are good; 6 are there any limit of this study? The authors should discuss it. 7 some minor language polishing should be corrected.

Response: Dear reviewer, thanks for your support and kindly suggestion. We have proofread the language and the study limitation in discussion section.