

Open peer review report 1

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Comments to the authors:

In this manuscript, the authors studied the predictive role of CMBs in the conversion from CIND to dementia in patients with CSVD. As it has been revealed that a high microbleed count was associated with an increased risk for cognitive deterioration and dementia (Akoudad et al., 2016), I assume the focus of this paper is further specifying that correlation between microbleeds in the fronto-subcortical circuits and the conversion of dementia. While it's convincing that the CMBs instead of smoking history or other variables is the major risk contributor, there are several issues requiring authors' attention.