**Reviewers' comments:**  
  
Reviewer #1 (Remarks to the Author):  
In the revised manuscript, authors added more scRNA-seq data from one healthy normal PBMC and three normal kidney tissue samples to have scRNA-seq data of 37,055 immune cells in total. Authors also validated the outcome prediction model based on machine-learning algorithm using TCGA ccRCC RNA-seq dataset. Authors conclude we can predict the clinical outcome of ccRCC with the immune signature from CD8+ T cells and TAM. Authors did not fully answer to the question on the immune suppression mechanism directed by those CD8+ T cells and TAM, which are too broad to specify the mechanism. To clarify the activity of CD8+ T cells or TAM in ccRCC, authors were asked to analyze the subtypes of CD8+ T cells and macrophages, which might give us a clue on the immune suppression mechanism such as increased population of exhausted CD8+ T cells. Because the number of cells analyzed in this manuscript is not many, authors can use public datasets to identify those subtypes of CD8+ T cells. In addition, we need to check whether those signatures related to ccRCC of CD8+ T cells and TAM is specific to ccRCC. To this end, authors were asked to test those signatures in other cancer types. Still revised manuscript does not provide scientific advancement in the field of tumor immunology.

Reviewer #2 (Remarks to the Author):  
Zakharia and colleagues have significantly revised their original manuscript, incorporating additional single cell sequencing data of healthy peripheral blood and normal kidney tissue into their detailed characterization of the CD4+ T cell, CD8+ T cell, and myeloid compartments within clear cell renal cell carcinoma (ccRCC). The authors also identified CD8+ T cell and macrophage gene signatures that correlate with patient survival by training machine learning models on ccRCC data from TCGA. Overall, this revision presents a strengthened story of immune dynamics in ccRCC that sufficiently addresses the comments brought up by us and other reviewers.  
  
Comments:  
**1. In addition to the presence of expanded clonotypes in NK cell clusters (as discussed by the authors), there also appears to be a nontrivial amount of T cell clones found in the monocyte and macrophage clusters (Figure 2A). Some discussion about potential reasons for this observation may be helpful for the reader.**

Excellent point, we have added this discussion to the manuscript:

*Pg 12 “Single clones and clones with 1-5 copy numbers were seen across myeloid clusters (Figure 2A), which may be a result of partial loss of finer gene expression differentiation during the expression integration.”*

Anecdotally, during the writing and usage of the scRepertoire package, this an issue we have encountered beyond just renal clear cell carcinoma, but also autoimmune processes of human and mouse skin, peripheral blood in lymphoma, and lung tumors.

**2. The authors show that the CD8+ subcluster 6 and TAM subcluster 3 gene signatures are able to discriminate overall survival (Figure 6B and C). Does a model using a feature set combining these two gene signatures further improve performance? Perhaps this would suggest that the immune response in ccRCC is not driven solely by one cell type, but rather is coordinated across both lymphoid and myeloid responses.**

We want to thank the reviewer for this point, the latter sentiment is what we hypothesize. With our experience in developing signatures from the bulk TCGA data, we have observed significant survival differentiation with 25 to 30 randomly assigned genes using the KNN modeling (as well as SVM), with < 20 randomly selected genes unable to differentiate survival. Thus, combining the two 15-gene signatures would provide disingenuous conclusions. Instead, we have provided a breakdown in the independent association of both signatures across the patients in both the results and discussion.

Pg19 *“However, there was a significant association between the CD8\_6 and TAM\_3 classifications, which shared a high degree of overlap in patient classified into good-prognosis (188 in both signatures) and poor-prognosis (35 in both signatures), Fisher p-value = 9.3e-15.”*

pg23 “*The TAM\_3 classification had an independently high degree with the CD8\_6, suggesting the possible interaction or coordination between lymphoid and myeloid cells in ccRCC*.”  
  
Reviewer #3 (Remarks to the Author):  
**In this revised manuscript, the authors provided plenty new data to validate their scRNAseq findings using several other platforms. However, they did not fully address the multiplet issue. Multiplet identification tools such as Scrublet are recommended.**