Comments to the Authors,  
  
ALDH1 family genes were suspected to be aberrantly expressed in gastric cancer tissues. In the present manuscript of 'Distinct clinicopathological significances and potential drug targets of ALDH1 iso-enzymes in gastric cancer', the authors checked the association between 5 sub-members (ALDH1A1, ALDH1A2, ALDH1A3,ALDH1B1 and ALDH1L1) in the ALDH1 family with a public online tool of "The Kaplan-Meier plotter". The study was performed rigorously and the findings sound very interesting. However, to meet the high quality standard of Tumor Biology, the authors should address the following issues:   
  
Major Compulsory Revisions  
  
1, the current finding can only be considered as preliminary result, the conclusion must be validated in another independent dataset.   
2, even the study were conducted and validated in another independent sample, the clinical application value also would be very limited. Actually, the prognosis of the cancer is significantly depended on the therapy strategy and the interaction between drugs/therapy with the genetics/epigenetic of the patients. The most interesting question in the prognosis of cancer is which SNPs and DNA methylation can be used as the prognosis biomarker, because other biomarkers would greatly change as the environment,such as gene expression, histone modification.