Reviewer's report

Title: Evaluation of IScore Validity in a Greek Cohort of Diabetic Patients

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Reviewer: Gustavo Saposnik

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The authors validated the iScore among patients with diabetes in a greek population.
Research sample includes 312 consecutive Caucasian type 2 diabetic and 222 Caucasian non-diabetic patients admitted for ischemic stroke in a tertiary Greek hospital. IScore values were significantly higher for diabetics at 30 days and 1 year after ischemic stroke and diabetic patients presented more frequently with lacunar strokes. Based on 3 ROC curves analysis IScore’s predictive ability for 30 day mortality was excellent, without statistically significant difference, for diabetics and non-diabetics. Predictive ability for 1 year mortality was also excellent for both groups with significantly better ability for diabetics especially at high score values. Calibration of the model was good for both groups of patients.
They concluded that 'the IScore accurately predicts mortality in acute ischemic stroke Caucasian diabetic and non-diabetic patients with higher efficacy in predicting 1 year mortality in diabetics especially with high scores".

The manuscript is well written. The study is relevant as the iScore has not been validated in an European country. The iScore is a fairly well-validated score of practical use including in the decision making of thrombolysis.

I have only minor comments:

1) I would suggest avoiding the terms with a negative connotation (e.g. Diabetics). Patients with diabetes would be preferable.

2) A recent study comparing tPA response between patients with and without diabetes can also be referenced.

3) Table 1- I would suggest adding an extra column for the entire cohort. Also include categories for age (e.g. <65-66-80, 80+).

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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