Reviewer's report

Title: External Validation of the Bayesian Estimated Tools for Survival (BETS) Models in Patients With Surgically Treated Skeletal Metastases

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Reviewer: Vincenzo Ippolito

Reviewer's report:

No revisions are needed.
It's an interesting paper. Just a simple comment: “Surgeon’s Estimate of Survival” (SES) is a very important issue in the decision-making process of deciding “If and How” to operate each patient, but it might be one of the least “scientific” data to collect. In our personal experience SES may be quite different between 2 Surgeons, or between Surgeon and Oncologist, etc. so it should be considered as very difficult to assess. We have operated over 1.000 metastatic patients over a 30 years period and my personal SES has been wrong too many times (both as underestimate or overestimate).

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.