Reviewer's report

Title: A non-randomized comparison of gemcitabine-based chemoradiation with or without induction chemotherapy for locally advanced squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck

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Reviewer: Ryan Lennon

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General

With regards to the usage of Cox proportional hazards models, the authors are correct that these methods are appropriate. In fact, it is perhaps the most widely used method for such data. Furthermore, their choice of covariates based on prior work (age, tumor site, etc.) is a sound statistical approach for small samples.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.