Reviewer’s report

Title: Gastric cancer surgery: Billroth I or Billroth II for distal gastrectomy?

Version: 3 Date: 4 November 2009

Reviewer: Shigefumi Yoshino

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Major Compulsory Revisions

According to the homepage of POSSUM (http://www.sfar.org/scores2/possum2.html), predicted morbidity rate is calculated following formula in individual patients.

\[ x = 0.16 \times \text{physiologic score} + 0.19 \times \text{operative score} - 5.91 \]

\[ \text{predicted morbidity rate} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}} \]

Authors should calculate the individual patients' predicted morbidity rate, and should calculate the predicted mobility number using the mean value of individual patients' predicted morbidity rate in Billroth I and II groups.

Authors should show the individual patients' predicted morbidity rate in table or figure.

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.