Reviewer’s report

Title: A proposed prognostic 7-day survival formula for patients with terminal cancer

Version: 2 Date: 15 September 2009

Reviewer: Patrick Stone

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have diligently answered most of the queries raised by the reviewers. I have one small remaining question.

Minor essential revisions

The authors have indicated that informed consent was given by all patients. However, the authors have also indicated that 4.8% of patients in the training group and 8.2% of the patients in the validation group were unconscious. How was informed consent obtained from such patients? - or was proxy consent obtained from relatives / carers?

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 was a co-author on two of the papers which I have referenced in my comments (which is why I knew about them).
I am currently undertaking a large prospective study of prognostic indicators in patients with advanced cancer (funded by CRUK).