Reviewer’s report

**Title:** A clinical prediction rule to identify difficult intubation in children with Robin sequence requiring mandibular distraction osteogenesis based on craniofacial CT measures

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 15 Aug 2019

**Reviewer:** Summer Syed

**Reviewer's report:**

Overall well written paper with the exception of some grammatical/English and spacing errors.

Statistics are valid and conclusions are well supported by work. Small sample size (acknowledged by authors).

Perhaps should include a calculation of accuracy of prediction (sensitivity and specificity) using all three measures that were different between groups and provide an alternative score (D6, A5 AND area calculation). Using three parameters may improve specificity as well as area under ROC. I agree that prediction rule using only area is perhaps easier but accuracy is not great.

It is very important work since prediction of very difficult airways in PS is difficult given the craniofacial anomalies and cooperation issues in this population, specifically for MOD surgery.

Early prediction of difficult airway may help provide appropriate back up plans to minimize laryngoscopy attempts at securing the airway in this population for airway management.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I recommend additional statistical review

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?
4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?
5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?
6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal