Reviewer’s report

Title: A model to predict unstable carotid plaques in population with high risk of stroke

Version: 2 Date: 17 Feb 2020

Reviewer: Aldo Bonaventura

Reviewer's report:

I feel that authors of the manuscript tried and improved some of the aspects highlighted by reviewers. I appreciate authors provided the questionnaire and re-wrote some parts (e.g. statistical analysis). However, some other points have not been modified neither improved: 1) I keep on thinking that a control group is important to support the analyses and the conclusions of the study. 2) The absence of hs-CRP is a major flaw, potentially solvable by measuring this biomarker with available samples, if any. 3) According to differences shown in Table 2 in patients with and without carotid unstable plaques, additional covariates should be included in Table 3 (logistic regression).

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

No

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

No

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 am able to assess the statistics

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

Needs some language corrections before being published
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