Reviewer’s report

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

Version: 3 Date: 12 Mar 2020

Reviewer: Aldo Bonaventura

Reviewer's report:

Authors addressed most of the reviewers' concerns. However, some doubts are still there with regard to controls. Authors stated that they provide a control group, but they did not explain this neither in the methods nor they showed this in Figure 1 summarizing the design of the study. No table comparing the cohort of interest and the control group is provided. I can't understand the sense of Table 2 of Supplementary material: it looks like authors ran a logistic regression on the control cohort, but what is the sense of this? A control cohort serves as a control for the cohort of interest, it should not be analyzed separately. The absence of hs-CRP remains a major flaw, although authors correctly stated this as a limitation.

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.

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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