Reviewer’s report

Title: Risk stratification by abbMEDS and CURB-65 in relation to treatment and disposition of the septic patient at the emergency department: a cohort study

Version: 4
Date: 1 August 2015

Reviewer: Pietro Caironi

Reviewer’s report:

I have evaluated with attention the revised version of the manuscript by Roest AA and colleagues. I congratulate with the authors for their effort in addressing all the points I have raised. I think that now the manuscript is clearer, and more focused on the main message. The findings reported may have important clinical implications in the future.

I have just the following minor points to be addressed (few corrections):

1) Abstract, conclusion. I would omit the expression “A new finding is that…” . The fact that you are commenting on a finding in the conclusion of the abstract means already (generally!) that it is a novel finding.

2) Throughout the text, I would change “disposition” (too vague) in “clinical disposition”.

3) In the legend of Figure 2, you are referring to two panels (panel A and panel B) instead of two different types of columns (gray and black ones). There is actually just one panel.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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