Author’s response to reviews

Title: Multi-cohort modeling strategies for scalable globally accessible prostate cancer risk tools

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Version: 2 Date: 06 Sep 2019

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WE THANK THE REVIEWER FOR THE SUGGESTIONS THAT HAVE IMPROVED THE MANUSCRIPT.

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:
Some minor discretionary points:
1. In response to my previous point (1), the authors say they develop a "global risk tool for a worldwide population'. I think it's worthwhile pointing out in the Discussion that it may be beneficial to adapt the tools to local settings where possible: this may improve performance, particularly where there is heterogeneity in case-mix and care that would impact predictor:outcome associations.

---AGREE AND HAVE ENDED THE DISCUSSION WITH A PARAGRAPH ADVOCATING THIS.

2. L37: 'data-scientific' -> 'data science'

---CHANGED.

3. L149: please cite R: 'R Core Team (2019). R: A language and environment for statistical computing. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. URLhttps://www.R-project.org/'. Please also acknowledge and cite any specific packages that were used.


4. The paragraph l230-235, currently struck-out, should be included.

---WE HAVE INCLUDED THIS PARAGRAPH.

5. L352 'multivariate' -> 'multivariable'

---CHANGED.

6. L361 'meta-analysis' -> '(2 stage) meta analysis'

----CHANGED

7. L368: suggest deleting 'after the period of grant funding' - that doesn't seem relevant.

---CHANGED and added two-stage before meta-analysis.

Editors comments:

1. All sources of funding, including the full name of the funding body, should be declared in the funding section. As such please move any funding information from the Acknowledgements to this section. Please also state the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

--ADDED TO THE FUNDING SECTION WITH THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT SECTION REMOVED

2. Thank you for including an ethics statement. Please clarify whether ethics approval was obtained from each of the institutions/countries that you had obtained data from, in both the Methods and Declarations sections (you may move your current statement in the Discussion to the Methods section). If you did not need formal ethics approval please confirm that this complies with national guidelines, for each country, and provide a reference which supports this. Alternatively, supply a statement that says that a local ethics committee ruled that no formal ethics approval was required in this particular case.

---WE HAVE ADDED THE ETHICS STATEMENT, THAT IT WAS OBTAINED IN ALL PARTICIPATING SITES, TO THE METHODS AND DECLARATIONS. THE STATEMENT IN THE DISCUSSION IS JUST A GENERAL NOTE FOR META-ANALYSIS STUDIES AND NOT SPECIFIC TO THIS STUDY.
3. If you did not need formal ethics approval please confirm that this complies with national guidelines and provide a reference which supports this. Alternatively, supply a statement that says that a local ethics committee ruled that no formal ethics approval was required in this particular case.
---WE DID OBTAIN FORMAL ETHICS APPROVAL.

4. We note that JT is missing from the Authors contribution section. We also note that JS is included in the Authors; Contribution section, but is not included on the title page. As such, please be sure to amend both sections.
---DONE. JS CHANGED TO JT IN ALL OCCURRENCES.

5. Please remove the cover letter from the file inventory, as it is no loner needed at this stage.
---DONE

6. If you do not wish to publish the TRIBPOD checklist then please remove it from the file inventory and include a statement within the manuscript that you adhered to TRIBPOD guidelines/methodology.
---DONE. THE STATEMENT ON TRIPOD IS ON LINE 127.

7. Please proofread and ensure that when you upload your revised submission that it is in the final form for publication. Please remove any tracked changes, colored text, or highlighting and include only a single clean copy of the manuscript. Should you wish to respond to these revision requests, please include the information in the designated input box only.
---DONE.