Reviewer’s report

Title: Predictive Modeling of Disease Burden in Adult-Onset Ulcerative Colitis Using Health Administrative Data

Version: 0 Date: 28 Nov 2018

Reviewer: Stephan Haas

Reviewer’s report:

Murthy and co-workers tested how health administrative data can discriminate UC disease extent and severity at diagnosis.

A large cohort of 587 newly diagnosed UC patients was studied. Different models were evaluated by two different statistical approaches and robustness was tested by bootstrap internal validation.

The goal to use health administrative data for prediction of the UC course is rather novel and of great interest.

Unfortunately, the statistical performance of the different models is rather disappointing.

The authors discuss critically the limitations of the study and give some outlook on potential applications of health administrative data for IBD research.

Further studies are needed to assess strong predictive outcomes such as patients’ response to different treatment strategies and complications rates by health administrative data.

Some spelling errors need to be corrected (line 80, 81).

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?
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Yes
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