Author’s response to reviews

Title: A NADE Nomogram to Predict the Probability of 6-Month Unfavorable Outcome in Chinese Patients with Ischemic Stroke

Authors:
Chao Sun (13218953897@163.com)
Xiang Li (249891823@qq.com)
Baili Song (baili93@126.com)
Xiangliang Chen (cxl@smail.nju.edu.cn)
Linda Nyame (lindaboat3@yahoo.com)
Yukai Liu (lyk8787@126.com)
Dan Tang (tdan93@126.com)
Mako Ibrahim (makorihanna@hotmail.com)
Zheng Zhao (zhaozheng0322@126.com)
Chao Liu (liuchaogermany@sina.cn)
Miao Yan (yanmiao@csu.edu.cn)
Xiding Pan (happynj100@126.com)
Jie Yang (yangjie1126@163.com)
Junshan Zhou (zhjsh333@126.com)
Jianjun Zou (zoujianjun100@126.com)

Version: 2 Date: 26 Aug 2019

Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editors and Reviewers:

Thank you very much for giving us this opportunity to resubmit our manuscript entitled: “A NADE
nomogram to Predict the Probability of 6-Month Unfavorable Outcome in Chinese Patients with Ischemic Stroke (NURD-D-19-00361)”, we should like to express my appreciation to you and the reviewers for suggesting how to improve our paper. According to the reviewers’ comments, we have made correction which we hope meet with their approval. Revised portion are underlined in red. Point by point responses to the reviewer’s comments are listed below.

-------------------------

Harold Adams (Reviewer 1):
The authors have improved the paper considerably. It does need some additional editorial work in regards to the usage of English. While much better than the original submission, some problems remain.
Major Considerations

Author respond: We appreciate the comments of the reviewer, we have revised the manuscript. The details as follow:
1.  We deleted “finally” in the sentence of “Based on the retrospective stroke registry, a single-center study which finally included 499 patients…” (Methods in Abstract section, line 1, page 3).
2.  We deleted the sentence of “which can be summed to create a total score, finally converted into a precise risk probability of 6-month unfavorable outcome for individual patient based on individual characteristics” (Results in Abstract section, line 5-7, page 3).
3.  We deleted “for individual patient with accurate continuous probability power” (Conclusion in Abstract section, line 3-4, page 4).
4.  We altered “… is on the rise owing to the aging population” as “… is on the rise owing to aging population” (first paragraph of Introduction section, line 4, page 4).
5.  We altered “… that have been applied in routine clinical practice including cancer and surgery” as “… that has been applied in routine clinical practice including cancer and surgery” (second paragraph of Introduction section, line 5, page 4).
6.  We altered “They found that … is the strongest predictors of 3-month unfavorable outcome” as “They found that … is the strongest predictor of 3-month unfavorable outcome” (third paragraph of Introduction section, line 8, page 4).
7.  We altered “categorical variables were instead expressed …” as “Categorical variables were instead expressed …” (Statistical analysis in Methods section, line 3, page 6).
8.  We altered “… diastolic BP, International normalized ratios (INR), fasting blood glucose (FBG), triglyceride (TG), High density lipoprotein (HDL), and Glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c) …” as “… diastolic blood pressure (BP), international normalized ratios (INR), fasting blood glucose (FBG), triglyceride (TG), high density lipoprotein (HDL), and glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c) …” (first paragraph of Results section, line 13-15, page 7).
9.  We altered “The NADE nomogram is defined as graphical computation instrument …” as “The NADE nomogram, defined as graphical computation instrument …” (third paragraph of Discussion section, line 4, page 9).
10.  We altered “… which showed a significant superiority of the NADE nomogram for prediction of unfavorable outcome” as “… which showed a significant superiority for prediction of unfavorable outcome” (fourth paragraph of Discussion section, line 2-3, page 10).

-------------------------

Technical Comments:
Title page:  Missing email add. of co-aus
Abbreviations: Missing
DECLARATIONS:  Missing heading and reformat the list of sub-section
Author respond: Thank you very much for your suggestion, we have revised the manuscript as follow:

Question 1: Title page: Missing email add. of co-aus
Author respond: Thank you very much for your suggestion, we added email add. of co-aus in title page.

Question 2: Abbreviations: Missing
Author respond: Thank you very much for pointing this out, we added “NADE: NIHSS score on admission, Age, previous Diabetes mellitus and crEatnine;” and “BP: blood pressure; IQR: international normalized ratios; FBG: fasting blood glucose; TG: triglyceride; HDL: high density lipoprotein; HbA1c: Glycated hemoglobin;” (Abbreviations section, line 1 and line 6-8, page 12).

Question 3: DECLARATIONS: Missing heading and reformat the list of sub-section.
Author respond: Thank you very much for pointing this out. We added the title and reformatted the list of sub-section.

Question 4: Ethics and Consent to participate: NA, Missing
Author respond: Thank you very much for your suggestion. We have revised this section.

Question 5: Consent for Publication: NA, Missing
Author respond: Thank you very much for your suggestion. We have revised this section.

Question 6: Availability of data and material: Missing
Author respond: Thank you very much for your suggestion. We have revised this section.

Question 7: Competing interests: Rename "Declaration of conflicting interests"
Author respond: Thank you very much for your suggestion, we renamed “Declaration of conflicting interests” “Competing interests”.

Question 8: Funding: Role of funder
Author respond: Thank you very much for your suggestion, the funder provided only financial support for this study. We have corrected it in the manuscript (Funding section, line 1-2, page 13).

Question 9: Authors' contributions: Use initial of each author
Author respond: Thank you very much for your suggestion, we have used initial of each author in the section of Authors' contributions.

Question 10: Acknowledgements: Missing
Author respond: Thank you very much for your suggestion. In the section of Acknowledgements, we have added “We would like to thank all patients, researchers, and institutions for their collaboration and contribution to this study.”