Reviewer’s report

Title: SYSTOLIC BLOOD PRESSURE AS A PREDICTOR OF TRANSIENT ISCHEMIC ATTACK/MINOR STROKE IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT PATIENTS UNDER AGE 80: A PROSPECTIVE COHORT STUDY

Version: 0 Date: 24 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

OBJECTIVE - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses a testable research question(s) (brief or other article types: is there a clear objective)?

Yes - there is a clear objective

DESIGN - Is the current approach (including controls and analysis protocols) appropriate for the objective?

Yes - the approach is appropriate

EXECUTION - Are the experiments and analyses performed with technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?

Yes - experiments and analyses were performed appropriately

INTERPRETATION - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?

No - there are major issues

OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Could an appropriately REVISED version of this work represent a technically sound contribution?

Probably - with minor revisions

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:
GENERAL COMMENTS: I found this study very interesting to read. Discriminating patients with TIA v. Mimics is an important role of EDs. This study has several strengths: It is well designed, well written, outcomes are robust and has a large sample size. In addition, the statistical approach is detailed and robust. My big struggle with this is its clinical utility. This is where the paper also struggles to make the linkage. If BP values are 149 v. 159 for a subgroup of patients with an OR of 1.18, I would conclude that BP is actually not useful. Determining clinical v. Statistical significance here is vital. As a clinician who works in the ED, what this tells me is that BP doesn't really matter. If the authors think otherwise, this needs to be more convincing.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

As above, need to reconsider the message, and make sure it aligns with the data.

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:

No

Note: This reviewer report can be downloaded - see attached pdf file.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

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.

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
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