**Reviewer’s report**

**Title:** Prediction of survival prognosis after surgery in patients with symptomatic metastatic spinal cord compression from non-small cell lung cancer

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 24 Jul 2015

**Reviewer:** Faiz Ahmad

**Reviewer's report:**

This is a commendable effort by the authors in attempting to formulate a scoring system pertaining to prognosis in non-small cell lung cancer.

Certain issues need to be addressed:

The extent and resectability of the primary lung cancer has not been mentioned in the manuscript or in the scoring system. This should be taken into account.

The article should mention clearly (including the title) that this pertains only to patients who have spinal cord compression (SCC) AND neurological deficits. Some patients with SCC can be asymptomatic or minimally symptomatic and this scoring system does not pertain to them. If this is not the case, clarification should be made.

How did the authors decide the cut off age for analysis (mean age?). It is possible that a different cut off may yield a significant observation.

What is meant by "time developing motor deficits"?

How did the authors decide on the cut off for number of vertebrae involved (2 or less vs 3 or more)?

Did they consider the extent of visceral metastasis as well?

Minor Grammar and syntax corrections are needed.

**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?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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.

I recommend additional statistical review

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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