Reviewer’s report

Title: Nomogram for individually predicting overall survival in rectal neuroendocrine tumours

Version: 1 Date: 25 May 2020

Reviewer's report:

In this manuscript, the Authors aim to develop and validate a nomogram predicting 1, -3 year overall survival for patients with rectal neuroendocrine tumors.

The nomogram was developed in a training set comprising 310 patients, with a very good discrimination (Harrell's C-index = 0.907) and calibration. It was validated in a validation set regarding 547 patients, with the same performance (Harrell's C-index = 0.824).

Comments.
In the Methods section, please report how 95% confidence interval for Harrell's C index was calculated.
In the Results section, please report the concordance index of the nomogram for the validation set (it was reported only in the abstract).
In the Results section, please report how many patients had died for each set (training and validation).
In table 2, it was reported that HR for gender was 0.551 but it is not clear which is the reference class (male of female). Please report the class of reference for each HR.
The tumor size, G grade, T staging and TNM stage are variable with more than two categories but in tables 2 and 3 only one HR was reported. One HR should be reported for each category.
Table 2 show that Gender was statistically significant in univariate analysis but this variable was not inserted in the multivariate model (table 3). Please explain why gender was not inserted into the multivariate model.
In figure 1 seem that G grade and TNM stage have the same points but in table 3 G grade had a weight more higher than TNM stage (HR=6.922 vs GR=1.930); moreover, the HR of Tumor size in greater than the HR of TNM stage, denoting a higher weight in the model that was not seen in figure 1
In figure 1, size should be reported as &lt;2, 2-4, &gt;4 cm instead of 1, 2 and 3 and TNM stage should be reported as I, II, III and IV instead of 1, 2, 3 and 4.
In figure 2, please use the same X-axis range scale for all figure.

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

No

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.

No

**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 am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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