Reviewer's report

Title: Evaluating severity of neonatal jaundice using a modified bilirubin-induced neurologic dysfunction (BIND-M) score in a resource-limited setting

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Reviewer: Claudio Tiribelli

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Radmacher and colleagues report on the development of a modified bilirubin induced neurologic dysfunction scoring (M-BIND score) algorithm for the diagnosis of acute bilirubin encephalopathy (ABE). The new score was tested in Nigeria where the prevalence of ABE is particularly high. M-BIND score was assessed by residents and compared with that assessed by consultants and showed a good agreement (Kappa coefficient 0.79) and a good PP. They conclude that M-BIND score may be useful for both experienced and resident neonatologist in those settings were the only diagnostic tools is physical exam

The paper is well written and results reported in a consequential way. The only problem is that it would be informative to have a comparison performed between the original BIND scoring algorithm (reported in Appendix I) with the M-BIND score. This comparison must be included to allow a better understanding of the advantage(s) of the next algorithm suggested.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'