Reviewer’s report

Title: Six underlying health conditions strongly influence mortality based on pneumonia severity in an ageing population of Japan: A prospective cohort study

Version: 0 Date: 04 Jan 2018

Reviewer: Albina Nowak

Reviewer's report:

Major comments

The lack of validation of the new mortality prediction model is the major limitation of the study. Therefore, it needs to be written as the first limitation in the Discussion and also in the Abstract.

Accordingly, it is too premature to claim "Evaluating the six underlying health conditions will significantly improve mortality prediction…".

Minor comments

Table 1:

Replace "85 ≤" by "≤ 85" for a better understanding

Percentage for the categories among survivors are desirable to be able to compare the weight of the respective category in the survivors versus non-survivors group.

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 am able to assess the statistics

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