Author’s response to reviews

Title: Enhancement of hepatitis virus immunoassay outcome predictions in imbalanced routine pathology data by data balancing and feature selection before the application of support vector machines

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Response to referee comments on third revision 5 July 2017

Reviewer reports:

Allan Tucker (Reviewer 3): I am pleased that the authors have expanded their limitations section to include the issues that I have raised. I appreciate that one cannot explore all methods.

As the focus is also on the clinical risk factors for hepatitis infections, I am willing to accept that the methods are sufficient though I would urge a slightly fuller review of related class-imbalance methods (rather than just one reference).

The paragraph in the Introduction referring to imbalanced data has been expanded, with five new references. A second reference on one-class classification has been added in the Limitations section.