Reviewers report

Title: A Bayesian Decision Support Sequential Model for Severity of Illness Predictors and Intensive Care Admissions in Pneumonia Short/ Running Title: Bayesian Pneumonia Decision

Version: 1 Date: 05 Dec 2019

Reviewer: Lawrence N. Kazembe

Reviewers report:

This is an interesting paper which applied Bayesian approach to design a nomogram aimed for pneumonia decisions. The paper is well written with essential background and clear methodology.

There are a few things which the authors make to enhance the readability of the paper.

1. Critical is the use of Bayesian inference. Not everyone is familiar with the Bayesian approach, and therefore a good motivation as to why Bayesian framework is preferred should be included in the introduction.

2. Please define the following terms/acronyms as used throughout the document: CURB65; BUN;

3. Line 14 - page where the conclusion is: replace "off" with "on" to read ...Our study is based on meta-analysis..

4. Contributory statement: Please use initials at peer-review stage.

5. Tables should have footnotes to define terms like PCT, LR+, LR-

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:

Acceptable

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