Reviewer’s report

Title: Stability Across Time of the Neutrophil-Lymphocyte and Lymphocyte-Neutrophil Ratios and Associations with Outcomes in Cardiac Surgery Patients

Version: 0 Date: 02 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Jacob Bergsland

Reviewer's report:

The article is interesting and although the findings have been described in the past, I find that this work is of interest for the journal.

A few questions and comments.

1) Did the authors try different cut-off values to separate between highs and lows for NLR and LNR to see if there would be more difference in clinical results? Or was the value of 2.44 selected because it was the value with the best discrimination?

2) Although the longitudinal consistency is rather good, did the authors try to look at values long time before or short time before the surgery? Did they select the highest available value for NLR? This is not well described in the Method section.

3) Did the authors try to combine some of the other risk factors used in Euroscore or STS database with the NLR or LNR ratios to see if such combinations would be predictive of worse income? Did they look at correlation between their ratios and Euroscore and STS score? The question is basically if NLR or LNR could be of value as a risk factor in these scoring system.

4) Maybe there should be some discussion about why these ratios are important, meaning how can the importance of NLR be explained. Is it an independent risk factor or just a factor reflecting other risk factors. I assume it would be reasonable to look at other risk factors as well to evaluate the potential independence of NLR and LNR.

5) Figure 2 is at least for me, difficult to evaluate and understand. It should be revised and have a better legend.
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An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English
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Acceptable

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