Reviewer’s report

Title: The current application of the Royston-Parmar model for prognostic modelling in health research: a scoping review

Version: 1 Date: 20 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Kym Snell

Reviewer's report:

The authors have addressed most of my previous comments. I have only a few minor comments, mostly for clarification or further information:

Line 72: I find it rather confusing to say 'time-specific predictions for any time point'. Perhaps refer to it as a function over time.

Line 193: Not sure what is meant by 'reporting mathematically as differences in cubes via basis functions'. Can you provide a reference or further information here please.

Line 69 & 102: Please provide references for statements such as 'most commonly used method'. E.g. for survival analysis being the most common regression model - logistic regression also commonly used. Fine to say 'a common approach'.

Line 152: Please define what the basis functions are or say which part of the equation they refer to.

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal