

Dear Editor and Reviewers,

We thank you for the highly positive comments from Reviewer 1. In response to reviewer 2, we appreciate his or her comments, however our manuscript is novel in that it is the first for elderly patients and is validated against an external population. Furthermore, the purpose of our score is less for excluding patients for surgery but more to aid counselling and discussion for patients and their families.

Many sincerest thanks,

Dr Isaac Seow En