Reply to reviewers:

We would like to thank you for your comment.

Thank you for the comment. In our Letter to the Editor, we aimed to inform the readership about the importance of cross-validation, regardless of which machine learning algorithm is being used, and its use to counteract the danger of over-fitting. Given the space limitations of a letter, the intention was not to extensively review the literature, but to provide a quick overview and convey the importance of nested cross-validation techniques and their caveats, when performing hyper-parameter tuning in machine-learning algorithms.

Dear Reviewer,

We prepared a Letter to the Editor, in response to the article *"Deep learning vs conventional learning algorithms for clinical prediction in Crohn's disease: A proof-of-concept study"*. In this letter we aimed to inform the readership about the importance of cross-validation, regardless of which machine learning algorithm is being used, and its use to counteract the danger of over-fitting. Given the space limitations of a letter, the intention was not to extensively review the literature, but to provide a quick overview and importance of nested cross-validation technique, and their caveats, when performing hyper-parameter tuning in machine-learning algorithms.

Reviewer #4:
Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)
Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)
Conclusion: Accept (General priority)
Specific Comments to Authors: This is a commentary paper on earlier publication in the Journal. It is delivered in a competent, robust manner, and is well structured.

Thank you for the comment.