PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

Manuscript NO: 79143

Title: Development and validation of novel nomograms to predict survival of patients with tongue squamous cell carcinoma

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03234974

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-08-08

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-08-08 09:32

Reviewer performed review: 2022-08-15 01:15

Review time: 6 Days and 15 Hours

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [Y] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [Y] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[Y] Yes [ ] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. The external validation group has much higher C-indexes. It is not common that the model performance is way much better in external validation group than in training group, please discuss.(for CSS, for example, 0.757 vs 0.830) 2. The author should describe how the training set and (internal) validation set are assigned, rather than describe the cohort for model development and internal validation as "training cohort" as a whole. 3. Why the   T classification and surgery status are not included in the variable analysis? 4. In Discussion section, other studies should be included to compare with the   results. 5. It is suggested that the authors should combine the literature of TSCC and make an in-depth discussion. 6. I would like you to add to the discussion how to use the nomogram created this time effectively in clinical practice. 7. Not enough novel.

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Title: Development and validation of novel nomograms to predict survival of patients with tongue squamous cell carcinoma

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03850246

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Doctor, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-08-08

Reviewer chosen by: Dong-Mei Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-09-13 06:23

Reviewer performed review: 2022-09-13 06:58

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [Y] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[Y] Yes [ ] No

Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The paper is focused on relevant topic. The aim of the paper is to to develop and validate nomograms for predicting overall survival (OS) and cancer-specific survival (CSS) in TSCC patients. Conclusions are that compared with the TNM staging system, these nomograms exhibit greater accuracy, effectiveness, and clinical utility for predicting the prognosis of TSCC patients.   The manuscript is clear and presented in a well structured manner. The study is well designed. Materials and methods are described in detail. Results are reported clearly and appropriate. Tables and figures properly show the data. The discussion is adequate.. The conclusions are consistent with the evidence. Just minors: - please discuss the role of PD L1 expression in this context quoting as follow: PD-1/PD-L1 in Cancer: Pathophysiological, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Aspects. Int J Mol Sci. 2021 May 12;22(10):5123. doi: 10.3390/ijms22105123. PMID: 34066087   Prevalence of PD-L1 expression in head and neck squamous precancerous lesions: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Head Neck. 2020 Oct;42(10):3018-3030. doi: 10.1002/hed.26339. Epub 2020 Jun 22. PMID: 32567746   PD-L1 evaluation in head and neck squamous cell carcinoma: Insights regarding specimens, heterogeneity and therapy. Pathol Res Pract. 2021 Oct;226:153605. doi: 10.1016/j.prp.2021.153605. Epub 2021 Sep 1. PMID: 34530257   - please discuss further the limitations related to the absence of histo-pathological parameters (DOI, etc etc).