Development and validation of the INCREMENT-ESBL predictive score for mortality in patients with bloodstream infections due to extendedspectrum-β-lactamase-producing Enterobacteriaceae

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Background. Bloodstream infections (BSIs) due to ESBL-producing Enterobacteriaceae (ESBL-E) are frequent yet outcome prediction rules for clinical use have not been developed. The objective was to define and validate a predictive risk score for 30 day mortality.

Methods. A multinational retrospective cohort study including consecutive episodes of BSI due to ESBL-E was performed; cases were randomly assigned to a derivation cohort (DC) or a validation cohort (VC). The main outcome variable was all-cause 30 day mortality. A predictive score was developed using logistic regression coefficients for the DC, then tested in the VC.

© The Author 2016. Published by Oxford University Press on behalf of the British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy. All rights reserved. For Permissions, please email: journals.permissions@oup.com. **Results.** The DC and VC included 622 and 328 episodes, respectively. The final multivariate logistic regression model for mortality in the DC included age >50 years (OR = 2.63; 95% CI: 1.18–5.85; 3 points), infection due to *Klebsiella* spp. (OR = 2.08; 95% CI: 1.21–3.58; 2 points), source other than urinary tract (OR = 3.6; 95% CI: 2.02–6.44; 3 points), fatal underlying disease (OR = 3.91; 95% CI: 2.24–6.80; 4 points), Pitt score >3 (OR = 3.04; 95 CI: 1.69–5.47; 3 points), severe sepsis or septic shock at presentation (OR = 4.8; 95% CI: 2.72–8.46; 4 points) and inappropriate early targeted therapy (OR = 2.47; 95% CI: 1.58–4.63; 2 points). The score showed an area under the receiver operating curve (AUROC) of 0.85 in the DC and 0.82 in the VC. Mortality rates for patients with scores of < 11 and \geq 11 were 5.6% and 45.9%, respectively, in the DC, and 5.4% and 34.8% in the VC.

Conclusions. We developed and validated an easy-to-collect predictive scoring model for all-cause 30 day mortality useful for identifying patients at high and low risk of mortality.

Introduction

ESBLs confer resistance to penicillins, cephalosporins and aztreonam. These enzymes have spread successfully among Enterobacteriaceae in recent decades and are now a significant worldwide problem. The mean prevalence of third-generation cephalosporin resistance among invasive isolates in Europe (most of which are due to ESBL production) has been increasing and is now 12% in *Escherichia coli* and 28% in *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, reaching 40% and 75%, respectively, in some countries.¹ ESBLs frequently coexist with other mechanisms of resistance and so ESBL producers may also be resistant to other agents, such as fluoroquinolones, co-trimoxazole or the aminoglycosides, which significantly limits the available therapeutic options against these isolates.²

Crude mortality among patients suffering bacteraemic infections due to ESBL-producing Enterobacteriaceae (ESBL-E) varies across studies, ranging from 13% to 83%, with a pooled mean of 31%.³ Two meta-analyses have shown that ESBL production is associated with increased mortality when compared to non-ESBL producers, mainly due to the effect of the increased delay in administering active therapy.^{3,4} Other factors, such as the severity of underlying chronic and acute conditions or source of infection, are also associated with increased risk of death.²

Predicting risk of mortality using a scoring system can be useful for stratifying patients according to risk and as a reference for investigating the efficacy of therapeutic alternatives; however, the generalizability of a predictive score may be problematic if the data on which it is based have been obtained from only one centre or area, since epidemiology and overall clinical management can vary from area to area.⁵ To the best of our knowledge, risk-scoring systems related to ESBL-E have so far been developed only to detect patients who harboured these organisms upon hospital admission,^{6,7} but not to predict mortality. A previous study developed a predictive score for patients with bacteraemia due to Gram-negative bacteria, but only for those receiving appropriate therapy;⁸ the score was later validated in patients with bloodstream infection (BSI) due to E. coli or Pseudomonas aeruginosa.⁹ Because inappropriate empirical therapy and species other than E. coli are frequent among BSIs due to ESBL-E,³ a specific predictive score is needed. The aim of this study was to develop a scoring model to estimate the risk of 30 day all-cause mortality for patients with BSIs due to ESBL-E on the day susceptibility data are available, using data from a large multinational cohort. We were also interested in including early targeted therapy as a potential predictor because this is a variable amenable to intervention on the same day.

Methods

Study design, sites and participants

This analysis is part of the INCREMENT project, a multicentre, international retrospective cohort study including consecutive episodes of BSI due to ESBLs or carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae diagnosed at participating centres from January 2004 through December 2013 (ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT01764490). The participating centres were selected because they had previous experience of characterizing the targeted bacteria and of collecting data from patients with BSIs. In the case of ESBL-E, a maximum of 50 consecutive cases per participating centre were included in the INCREMENT database. Subsequent episodes in a patient caused by the same microorganism were included only if the interval between their isolation dates was >3 months.

For this analysis, all episodes of ESBL-E included in the INCREMENT database were eligible. These came from 37 tertiary hospitals in 11 different countries (Spain, Germany, Italy, Greece, Israel, Turkey, South Africa, Canada, USA, Argentina and Taiwan). Exclusion criteria included polymicrobial BSIs, non-clinically significant episodes and unavailability of key data. Also, because the predictive variables are to be used when susceptibility data are available (typically, 48 h after blood cultures are taken), patients who died less than 48 h after the blood cultures were obtained were also excluded. All patients were followed for 30 days after the blood cultures were obtained. The patients included were randomly assigned to a derivation cohort (DC; two-thirds of the total number) and the rest to a validation cohort (VC; one-third) before the exclusion criteria were applied.

ESBL production was studied at each centre using standard phenotypic methods;¹⁰ susceptibility was studied using automated systems or disc diffusion at each local laboratory and interpreted using 2012 CLSI breakpoints;¹⁰ the genes coding for ESBLs were characterized by PCR and sequencing of selected isolates at each centre.

STROBE recommendations were followed in order to strengthen the reporting of the study (Table S1, available as Supplementary data at *JAC* Online).

Variables and definitions

The outcome variable was all-cause 30 day mortality. Day 0 was the day when the blood cultures were taken. The independent variables were assessed at day 0 except where specified, and included: demographics, chronic underlying conditions and their severity according to the McCabe classification (non-fatal underlying condition: death is not expected to occur as a consequence of the underlying condition in the next 5 years; ultimately fatal: death is expected to occur in the next 5 years; and rapidly

fatal: death is expected to occur in the next 3 months)¹¹ and the Charlson comorbidity index,¹² severity of acute underlying condition according to the Pitt score (measured retrospectively the day before BSI),¹³ type of acquisition, type of admission ward (medical, surgical, emergency department or ICU), source of BSI according to CDC definitions,¹⁴ severity of systemic inflammatory response syndrome at presentation (sepsis, severe sepsis, septic shock),¹⁵ microorganism, and antibiotic therapy (see below).

Acquisition was considered nosocomial if signs or symptoms of infection started >48h after hospital admission or <48h after hospital discharge. Otherwise, the case was considered community onset. Antibiotic therapy was considered as empirical if administered before susceptibility data were available, and targeted thereafter. Antibiotics were considered appropriate if administered early enough (<1 day from the day blood cultures were taken for empirical drugs, and <4 days for targeted antibiotics) and if susceptible or intermediate in vitro according to 2012 CLSI recommendations:¹⁰ for isolates obtained before 2012, the susceptibility category was reviewed and assigned according to the MIC or inhibition size; these were not available in 15 isolates (1.2%) for which the breakpoint of the drug used for the treatment had changed, and for these the susceptibility was considered as reported by the local laboratory. The intravenous route was not a requirement for appropriate therapy, but active antibiotics were administered intravenously in all patients. In this analysis, because the prediction rule was to be used on day 3, only early targeted drugs (i.e. those administered on that day, which is the day when susceptibility results are typically available) were considered; any later change in therapy was not analysed.

Statistical analysis

The predictive score was calculated using the DC. Categorical variables were compared by χ^2 test or Fisher's exact test, and continuous variables by the Student's t-test or Mann-Whitney U-test, as appropriate. Odds ratios (ORs) and 95% CIs were calculated. Continuous and polychotomous variables were dichotomized using classification and regression tree (CART) analysis according to their association with the outcome. The participating centres were classified as high or low mortality risk after considering all other variables using TreeNet (Salford Systems) (see Table S2, and Figures S1–S6). Variables with a P value of <0.2 in univariate analysis in the DC and those considered to be of clinical interest were included in a logistic regression model and selected manually in a stepwise manner. The variance inflation factor value (VIF) for every variable was calculated to control for the influence of multicollinearity. The 'centre' variable (dichotomized) was included as a covariate in the multivariate analysis to control for the influence of unmeasured variables related to the site effect. Interactions were explored. A predictive score was developed by dividing each regression coefficient by half of the smallest and rounding to the nearest unit. The discriminatory power of the models was evaluated by calculating the area under the receiver operating characteristic curve (AUROC), and goodness-of-fit was evaluated with the Hosmer-Lemeshow test. Sensitivity (SE), specificity (SP), positive and negative predictive values (PPV, NPV), accuracy (AC), and positive and negative likelihood ratios¹⁶ (PLR, NLR) were calculated. The score was then applied to the VC for validation.

Statistical analysis was performed using SPSS version 21 software (IBM Statistics for Windows, version 21.0; IBM Corp, Armonk, NY, USA), CART software 7.0 (Salford Systems) and TreeNet (Salford Systems).

Ethics

The Institutional Review Board of the Hospital Universitario Virgen Macarena approved the study (reference number 1921). Approval was also obtained at each participating centre according to local requirements; the need for informed consent was waived because of the observational nature of the study.

Results

The study included 1004 episodes of BSIs due to ESBL-E. One patient was excluded because of important missing data and 53 died within 48 h and were also excluded; therefore, 950 cases were finally included. The ESBL was characterized in 330 (34.7%), of which 260 (78.8%) were CTX-M-type, 58 (17.7%) SHV-type and 51 (15.5%) TEM type (27 isolates had \geq 1 ESBL). Of these 950 cases, 622 were allocated to the DC, and 328 to the VC (see Figure S7). The epidemiological features and predisposing factors of patients in both cohorts are shown in Table 1.

The following variables were dichotomized according to CART as follows: age, >50 versus \leq 50 years; Charlson index, \geq 2 versus <2; McCabe, ultimately and rapidly fatal underlying condition versus non-fatal; Pitt score, >3 versus \leq 3, severity of inflammatory response, severe sepsis and septic shock versus sepsis (Figures S2–S6). The variable centre was dichotomized according to TreeNet as high-risk versus low-risk sites (Figure S1). There was no trend towards differences in mortality according to study year and this variable was not therefore considered.

The univariate analysis of variables associated with 30 day mortality in the DC showed significantly increased risk for age > 50 years, infection due to Klebsiella spp, nosocomial acquisition, Charlson index >2, Pitt score >3, ultimately or rapidly fatal underlying disease, source other than urinary tract, severe sepsis/septic shock at presentation, and inappropriate early targeted therapy; while infection due to E. coli was protective (Table 2). Variables in the final multivariate analysis model independently associated with an increased risk of 30 day mortality were: age >50 years, infection due to Klebsiella spp., ultimately or rapidly fatal underlying disease, Pitt score >3, source other than the urinary tract, severe sepsis/septic shock at presentation of symptoms, and inappropriate early targeted treatment. When early appropriate targeted therapy was subdivided into carbapenems and noncarbapenems, both showed a similar protective effect (data not shown). The Charlson comorbidity index was also significantly associated with higher mortality in the univariate model but was not included in the final multivariate model because it was collinear with the McCabe classification. The data are shown in Table 2. The point values assigned to each independent risk factor for mortality are also shown in Table 2. The sum of the scores applied to each individual patient ranged from 0 to 21 points. The AUROC of the final model was 0.87 (95% CI: 0.83–0.90), and the P value for the Hosmer-Lemeshow test was 0.93, indicating good discrimination and calibration (Figure 1). When the scoring model was applied to the DC, it showed an AUROC of 0.85 (95% CI: 0.82–0.89) (Figure 1), and the Hosmer-Lemeshow test also demonstrated a good fit (P = 0.44). The SE, SP, PPV, NPV and AC for different cutoffs are shown in Table 3; a cut-off of \geq 7 showed 97% SE and 98% NPV, but, in contrast, a moderate SP (39%) and low PPV (27%). On the other hand, a cut-off of >14 showed high SP (89%) and moderate PPV (54%) but a high NPV (90%).

When the scoring model was applied to the VC, the AUROC of the model was 0.82 (95% CI: 0.76–0.88) (Figure 1) and the *P* value for the Hosmer–Lemeshow test was 0.96. The prediction rules derived from applying the scores to the VC are shown in Table 4. For a score of \geq 7, the scoring system showed 98% SE and 99% NPV. When a cut-off of \geq 14 was considered, SP was 87% and NPV 92%. Table 1. Epidemiological features and predisposing factors of patients with bacteraemia due to ESBL-E in the derivation and validation cohort

Variable	Derivation cohort (n = 622)	Validation cohort (n = 328)	<i>P</i> value
Median age in years (IQR)	69 (56–79)	68 (58–79)	0.95
Male sex	353 (57)	182 (55)	0.70
Median previous hospital stay in days (IQR) ^a	2 (0–13)	1 (0–10)	0.19
Nosocomial acquisition	301 (49)	155 (47)	0.73
Source			0.56
urinary tract	274 (44)	135 (41)	
unknown	108 (17)	50 (15.1)	
biliary tract	62 (10)	43 (13)	
intra-abdominal	59 (9)	43 (13)	
vascular	45 (7)	20 (6.1)	
respiratory tract	44 (7)	20 (6.1)	
CNS	1 (0.3)	0 (0)	
osteoarticular	4 (0.7)	1 (0.3)	
skin and soft tissue	16 (3)	11 (3.4)	
other	9 (2)	5 (2)	
Ward admission			0.83
emergency department	295 (47)	147 (45)	
medical	165 (27)	89 (27)	
ICU	91 (15)	49 (15)	
surgical	71 (11)	43 (13)	
Microorganisms			0.59
E. coli	435 (70)	218 (66)	
K. pneumoniae	133 (21)	80 (24)	
Other Klebsiella spp.	3 (0.5)	4 (1.2)	
Morganella morganii	1 (0.2)	0 (0)	
Citrobacter freundii	3 (0.5)	2 (0.9)	
Enterobacter cloacae	37 (6)	16 (5)	
Enterobacter aerogenes	2 (0.4)	3 (1)	
Proteus mirabilis	5 (0.8)	2 (0.9)	
Serratia marcescens	2 (0.4)	3 (1)	
Other Enterobacter spp.	1 (0.2)	0 (0)	
Median Charlson Index (IQR)	2 (1-4)	2 (1-4)	0.33
Median Pitt score (IQR)	1 (0-3)	1 (0-2)	0.16
Ultimately or rapidly fatal underlying condition	306 (49)	173 (52.7)	0.88
Severe sepsis/septic shock	224 (36)	104 (32)	0.18
Appropriate empirical therapy	339 (54)	174 (53)	0.66
Appropriate targeted therapy	505 (81)	265 (81)	0.88
30 day crude mortality	115 (18)	50 (15)	0.2

Data are expressed as numbers (percentage) except where specified.

^aTime from admission to positive blood culture.

Two groups of risk categories were identified for risk of mortality in both the DC and the VC: a low-risk (<11) and a high-risk (\geq 11) category. Mortality rates for patients with scores of <11 and \geq 11 were 5.6% and 45.9% in the DC; and 5.4% and 34.8% in the VC, respectively.

Discussion

We describe a predictive scoring model (the INCREMENT-ESBL score) for all-cause 30 day mortality in patients with BSIs due to ESBL-E that can be calculated when susceptibility data are available. To our knowledge, this is the first prognostic score developed

for this condition. Relevant aspects of the study are that the score was obtained from a multinational study with a large number of patients and that it was also validated.

A previous study identified a predictive score for patients with bacteraemia due to Gram-negative bacteria who had received appropriate empirical therapy;⁸ the predictive factors in that study were malignancy (3 points), liver cirrhosis (4), source other than urinary tract or catheter (4), and Pitt score 2–3 (2) or \geq 4 (5). Because appropriate empirical therapy was not frequent (~54% of patients in our cohort), that score would not be applicable to many patients with BSIs due to ESBL-E. When that score was calculated for our patients, considering only those with appropriate empirical



Figure 1. Receiver operating curves for the multivariate model and scoring system in the DC and VC.

therapy, its discriminative ability was only moderate (AUROC: 0.74; 95% CI: 0.68–0.79). This is probably due to the specific features of patients with BSIs due to ESBL-E. Additionally, we were interested in the impact of appropriate early targeted therapy administered on the same day that the score was calculated.

The predictive score developed showed good (but not excellent) predictive ability in both the DC and VC. However, in terms of implementation, the scoring system readily made it possible to identify patients at both a low and high risk of mortality. Overall, two-thirds of patients had a score of <11 and low mortality (\leq 5.6%). In contrast, 32% of patients had a > 34.8% risk of mortality. The score is expected to be useful primarily to calculate the expected rate of mortality in future non-comparative studies when old or new drugs are used, and also in comparative studies to check if the mortality found in the standard-of-care arm is as expected. As regards its potential utility for clinical management beyond risk-stratification, this should be investigated in specific studies, i.e. it is necessary to test whether changes in management according to the scorebased stratification of the patients (e.g. use of a more aggressive approach in higher-risk patients) are associated with any benefit. Despite including data that must be usually collected when evaluating patients with bacteraemia, the score is not as simple as we would have liked, which is surely a limitation for its clinical use.

The study identified the key risk factors associated with 30 day mortality among patients with BSIs due to ESBL-E. These include: age >50 years, infection due to *Klebsiella* spp. rather than other species, a source of infection other than urinary tract infections (UTIs), a fatal underlying disease according to the McCabe classification (i.e. death is expected to occur in <5 years as a consequence of the underlying condition), a condition of acute severity as measured by a Pitt score of >3, presentation of BSI with severe sepsis or septic shock, and inappropriateness of early targeted

antibiotics (administered up until day 3). Most of these have been found in previous studies performed in specific countries and are now confirmed and measured here.^{17–19} Both the McCabe classification and the Charlson index have been validated as mortality predictors in many bloodstream studies; they measure the same concept and, in fact, correlated well in this study. While the McCabe index may be more subjective, the dichotomization used (non-fatal versus ultimately or rapidly fatal underlying condition) somehow limits its subjectivity; we decided to keep it in the score because it was more predictive than the Charlson index. As regards the Pitt score, it has also been repeatedly validated as a predictor of mortality.^{8,9,13} Different thresholds have been used in previous studies; by using CART analysis, we selected >3 points as our mortality predictor. The fact that Klebsiella spp. was associated with increased mortality should be noted; this might be due to increased intrinsic virulence or to the fact that Klebsiella may be a surrogate for baseline severity not adequately controlled for by other variables; in any case, data from studies including only E. coli isolates should not be extrapolated to all ESBL-E.

An important finding is the fact that inappropriate early targeted therapy was associated with increased mortality. We could not investigate the reasons for the delay in administering active targeted therapy, but lack of early and active reporting of the susceptibility data is a probable cause. This means that there is still an opportunity to improve the mortality rate of patients who receive inappropriate empirical therapy by reviewing them early, as soon as the susceptibility results are known, and providing advice for an active drug. This can be done by implementing active bacteraemia services.²⁰⁻²² The fact that inappropriate empirical therapy was not shown to be independently associated with mortality, as was shown in previous studies with all-causes of bacteraemia,²³ has also been found in other studies in ESBL-producers.¹⁹ Anyway, the exclusion of patients who died within 48 h according to the objectives in this study might have underestimated the importance of empirical therapy.

Our group recently published a predictive score for 14 day mortality in patients with BSIs due to carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE).²⁴ Despite the fact that mortality was much higher in that cohort (45%), the score was similar to the one found in this study; the main difference was that *Klebsiella* spp. was not associated with outcome among patients with BSIs due to CPE, which is probably due to the fact that these organisms caused 85% of the episodes.

This study has several limitations. First, the data were obtained retrospectively, and some aspects of management beyond antimicrobial therapy were not collected. Second, despite the fact that the cases should be consecutive, we could not assess that and therefore the possibility of selection bias cannot be eliminated. Anyway, the features of the patients are very similar to those in other smaller cohorts. Third, residual confounding is possible. Fourth, despite the fact that the participating centres were expert in investigating patients with bacteraemia, the quality of the data may not have been equal across all sites. Fifth, validation was performed on the same cohort, not a new, prospective one. Finally, the ESBL were characterized only in a subgroup of patients.

In summary, a predictive score with good discriminative ability for the risk of all-cause 30 day mortality in adult patients with BSIs due to ESBL-E was developed and validated. The INCREMENT-ESBL

	Crude analysis				Adjusted analysis			
Variable	No. deceased (%) <i>n</i> = 115	No. alive (%) <i>n</i> = 507	OR (95% CI)	P value	βcoefficient	OR (95% CI)	P value	Score
Age >50 years	103 (89)	416 (82)	1.87 (0.99–3.55)	0.05	0.97	2.63 (1.18–5.85)	0.01	3
Male sex	64 (55)	289 (57)	0.94 (0.63-1.42)	0.79				
Enterobacteriaceae								
E. coli	58 (50)	377 (74)	0.35 (0.23-0.53)	< 0.001				
Klebsiella spp.	44 (38)	92 (18)	2.79 (1.8-4.33)	< 0.001	0.73	2.08 (1.21-3.58)	0.008	2
others	13 (11)	38 (7.4)	1.57 (0.8–3.05)	0.17				
Nosocomial acquisition	72 (62)	229 (45)	2.03 (1.34-3.08)	0.001				
Source other than UTI	91 (79)	257 (50)	3.68 (2.27-5.97)	< 0.001	1.28	3.60 (2.02-6.44)	< 0.001	3
ICU admission	25 (21)	46 (9)	2.78 (1.62-4.76)	< 0.001				
Charlson Index ≥ 2	99 (86)	310 (61.1)	3.93 (2.25-6.86)	< 0.001				
McCabe (UF and RF)	87 (75)	219 (43)	4.08 (2.57-6.47)	< 0.001	1.36	3.91 (2.24-6.80)	< 0.001	4
Pitt score >3	55 (47)	57 (11)	7.23 (4.57–11.44)	< 0.001	1.11	3.04 (1.69–5.47)	< 0.001	3
Severe sepsis/septic shock	85 (73)	139 (27)	7.50 (4.73–11.87)	< 0.001	1.56	4.80 (2.72-8.46)	< 0.001	4
Inappropriate empirical therapy	64 (55)	275 (54)	1.05 (0.70–1.59)	0.78				
Inappropriate early targeted therapy	74 (64)	80 (15)	3.22 (2.0–5.0)	< 0.001	0.90	2.47 (1.58-4.63)	0.002	2

Table 2. Univariate and multivariate analysis of risk factors associated to all-cause 30 day mortality in the derivation cohort with calculated scores

UTI, urinary tract infection; UF, ultimately fatal; RF, rapidly fatal.

Table	3.	Risk	score	performance	in	the	derivation	cohort	(data	shown
are pe	rce	entag	les)							

Table 4. Risk score performance in the validation cohort. Data are shown in percentages

Proportion Score of patients SE SP PPV NPV AC PLR NLR ≥ 4 1.23 0.05 ≥ 5 1.26 0.04 >6 1.39 0.03 ≥7 1.59 0.07 ≥ 8 1.95 0.18 >9 2.11 0.18 ≥ 10 2.35 0.20 3.59 ≥ 11 0.26 >12 4.52 0.27 >13 4.78 0.38 ≥ 14 5.09 0.49 9.4 0.55 ≥ 15 10.75 0.59 ≥16 ≥ 17 9.33 0.74 >18 15.00 0.85 ≥ 19 12.00 0.90 ≥ 20 0.96

SE, sensitivity; SP, specificity; PPV, positive predictive value; NPV, negative predictive value; AC, accuracy; PLR, positive likelihood ratio; NLR, negative likelihood ratio.

Proportion Score of patients SE SP PPV NPV AC PLR NLR ≥ 4 1.20 ≥ 5 1.23 >6 1.31 >7 1.53 0.05 >8 1.84 0.16 >9 2.00 0.21 ≥10 2.26 0.22 2.92 ≥ 11 0.32 >12 3.09 0.41 >13 4.14 0.48 ≥14 4.30 0.50 ≥15 0.65 7.60 ≥ 16 4.80 0.80 ≥17 10.00 0.81 >18 10.00 0.90 ≥19 8.00 0.92 ≥ 20 0.3 0.98

SE, sensitivity; SP, specificity; PPV, positive predictive value; NPV, negative predictive value; AC, accuracy; PLR, positive likelihood ratio; NLR, negative likelihood ratio.

score provides a baseline risk for future controlled and uncontrolled studies and may help physicians to identify patients at high and low risk of mortality.

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Z. R. P. B., B. G. G and J. R. B. had full access to the data in the study and take responsibility for the integrity of the data and the accuracy of the data analysis. Conception or design: B. G. G., R. A. B., Y. C., D. L. P., A. P. and J. R. B. Acquisition, analysis or interpretation of data: Z. R. P. B., B. G. G., M. dC., P. V., M. V., A. H. T., A. O., L. M. M., E. C., V. P., O. G., B. A., J. A. L., J. P., M. A., C. P. M., M. J. S., M. T., E. T., J. O., N. P., G. B., H. G., J. B., A. H., F. P., M. Almela, W. L., P. R. H., C. N. S. F., J. T. C., Y. C., R. A. B., D. L. P., A. P. and J. R. B. Drafting of the manuscript: Z. R. P. B., B. G. G., A. P. and J. R. B. Critical revision of the manuscript for important intellectual content: M. dC., P. V., M. V., A. H. T., A. O., L. M. M., E. C., V. P., O. G., B. A., J. A. L., J. P., M. A., C. P. M., M. J. S., M. T., E. T., J. O., N. P., G. B., H. G., J. B., A. H., F. P., M. Almela, W. L., P. R. H., C. N. S. F., J. T. C., Y. C., R. A. B and D. L. P. Statistical analysis: Z. R. P. B., B. G. G. and J. R. B. Obtaining funding: R. A. B., A. P. and J. R. B. Supervision: Y. C., R. A. B, D. L. P, A. P. and J. R. B. Administrative, technical or material support: B. G. G., M. dC., P. V, M. V, A. H. T, A. O., L. M. M., E. C., V. P., O. G., B. A., J. A. L., J. P., M. A., C. P. M., M. J. S., M. T., E. T., J. O., N. P., G. B., H. G., J. B., A. H., F. P., M. Almela, W. L., P. R. H., C. N. S. F. and J. T. C.

Supplementary data

Tables S1 and S2 and Figures S1–S7 are available as Supplementary data at JAC online (http://jac.oxfordjournals.org/).

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