Chirurgia (2026) 121: 595-596
No. 5, September - October
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http://dx.doi.org/10.21614/chirurgia.3411

Reply to the Letter to the Editor: Evaluation of P-POSSUM Risk Scoring System in Prediction of Morbidity and Mortality after Pancreaticoduodenectomy

Nadim Al Hajjar*

Iuliu Hatieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj, Surgical Clinic no. 3 Cluj-Napoca, Romania

*Corresponding author:
Professor Nadim Al Hajjar
Surgical Clinic No. 3, IRGH Cluj
19-23 Croitorilor Street
Cluj-Napoca, Romania
E-mail: na_hajjar@yahoo.com

Dear Editor,

As a reply to the Letter to the Editor written by Yasin Alper Yıldız (1), first we are thankful for the interest in our study.

We thank the authors for their careful reading of our manuscript and for raising this important methodological issue. We agree that the equations used for the calculation of predicted morbidity and mortality should have been stated more explicitly in the Methods section.

For clarification, the physiological score (PS) and operative severity score (OS) were calculated according to the original POSSUM scoring system.

Predicted morbidity was calculated using the original POSSUM morbidity equation:

$$\ln[R/(1-R)] = -5.91 + (0.16 \times PS) + (0.19 \times OS)$$

where R represents the predicted probability of morbidity.

Predicted mortality was calculated using the Portsmouth modification (P-POSSUM):

$$\ln[R/(1-R)] = -9.37 + (0.19 \times PS) + (0.15 \times OS)$$

where R represents the predicted probability of mortality.

Therefore, to clarify the terminology used in our manuscript, the original POSSUM equation was used for morbidity prediction, whereas the P-POSSUM modification was used for mortality prediction. The calculations were performed using the online risk calculator cited in the original manuscript, based on the corresponding PS and OS values.

Received: 26.07.2026
Accepted: 28.09.2026

We acknowledge that the original manuscript did not reproduce these equations explicitly and that providing them would improve transparency and reproducibility. We are grateful for the opportunity to clarify this methodological aspect and hope that the information provided above addresses the concerns raised.

References

1. Yıldız YA. Letter to the Editor: Evaluation of P-POSSUM Risk Scoring System in Prediction of Morbidity and Mortality after Pancreaticoduodenectomy. Chirurgia (Bucur). 2026;121(5):593-594. http://dx.doi.org/10.21614/chirurgia.3410