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A nomogram for the prediction of in-hospital mortality in patients with acute ST-elevation myocardial infarction after primary percutaneous coronary intervention

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A nomogram for the prediction of in-hospital mortality in patients with acute STelevation myocardial infarction after primary percutaneous coronary intervention

Running title: Nomogram for STEMI in-hospital mortality after PCI

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ABSTRACT

Objectives: To establish a clinical prognostic nomogram for predicting in-hospital mortality after primary percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) among patients with STelevation myocardial infarction (STEMI).

Design: Retrospective, multicenter, observational study.

Setting: Thirty-nine hospitals in Hebei Province.

Participants: Patients with STEMI who underwent PCI from January 2018 to December 2019.

Interventions: A multivariable logistic regression model was used to identify the factors associated with in-hospital mortality. Then, they were incorporated into a nomogram. The performance of the nomogram was evaluated by the discrimination, calibration, and clinical usefulness.

Primary and secondary outcome measures: The outcome was the factors associated with in-hospital mortality.

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A multivariable logistic regression model was used to ite
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condary outcom **Results:** This study included 855 patients, among whom 223 died in hospital. Age, Body Mass Index (BMI), systolic pressure on admission, hemoglobin, random blood glucose on admission, ejection fraction after PCI, use aspirin before admission, long lesions, thrombolysis in myocardial infarction (TIMI) flow grade, and neutrophils/lymphocytes ratio (N/L ratio) were independently associated with in-hospital mortality (all P<0.05). In the training set, the nomogram showed a C-index of 0.947, goodness-of-fit of 0.683, and area under the receiver operating characteristic curve (AUC) of 0.947 (95%CI=0.927- 0.967). In the testing set, the C-index was 0.891, goodness-of-fit was 0.462, and AUC was 0.891 (95%CI=0.844-0.939). The results indicate that the nomogram had good discrimination and good prediction accuracy and could achieve a good net benefit.

Conclusions: A nomogram that provides an individual prediction of in-hospital mortality

for patients with STEMI after PCI in a Chinese population was established and validated.

Keywords: nomogram; ST-elevated myocardial infarction; percutaneous coronary intervention; in-hospital mortality

ARTICLE SUMMARY

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This study included 39 tertiary centers and 855 patients, including 223 (26.1%) who met the outcome.

- The data were obtained retrospectively, which can lead to less reliable information.

Fig. Polyment only - Other potential risk factors in our study, such as LVEF before PCI, could not be included in the analyses.

INTRODUCTION

Formally Barnin, are tector actobe, a gon-production,
ity, mortality, and major cardiovascular events (MACEs
eaths worldwide [5]. In recent years, with the diagno
continuous standardization of the treatment of STEM
termina ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI), a type of coronary artery disease (CAD), is a common clinical emergency and critical illness [1]. STEMI is most often caused by plaque rupture of an atherosclerotic lesion in the affected (culprit) coronary artery followed by total occlusion of the vessel lumen with a thrombus [2, 3]. Common risk factors for CAD, including STEMI, are tobacco abuse, dyslipidemias, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, and a family history of CAD [4]. Myocardial infarction is the main cause of global morbidity, mortality, and major cardiovascular events (MACEs), representing 15% of the annual deaths worldwide [5]. In recent years, with the diagnosis and treatment guidelines, the continuous standardization of the treatment of STEMI, the increasing evidence of determinants of patient prognosis, and the continuous development of emerging technologies have contributed to a reduction in mortality; still, mortality seems to have plateaued [3].

Primary percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) has become the preferred reperfusion strategy in patients with STEMI according to the current clinical guidelines for STEMI in the United States and Europe [6, 7]. Nevertheless, even if such patients receive timely PCI and/or appropriate antiplatelet drugs, the prognosis is still poor, and a substantial number of patients still die in-hospital after PCI. About 6% of STEMI patients die in the hospital [3, 8, 9]. Therefore, there is still room for improving the short-term outcomes after PCI. Various studies examined the risk factors of short- and long-term mortality of STEMI patients after PCI [10-12]. Guidelines encourage the use of clinical scores such as the thrombolysis in myocardial infarction (TIMI) or The Global Registry of Acute Coronary Events (GRACE) for STEMI to assess early- and long-term risk [6, 7, 13]. Several

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biomarkers have been reported to confer independent prognostic information after STEMI, including Cardiac Troponin (cTn), Brain Natriuretic Peptide (BNP), amino-terminal pro-Brain Natriuretic Peptide (NT-proBNP), and D-dimer [14-17]. Unfortunately, these studies often exclude patients with advanced age, liver or kidney dysfunction, and other comorbidities and complications. Therefore, the generalizability of those studies is limited, and it is difficult to summarize and reflect the real-world treatment situation comprehensively. Therefore, the objective of this study was to develop a clinical nomogram for predicting in-hospital mortality of patients with STEMI after PCI. The results could provide clinical

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guidance and improve the outcome of STEMI patients.

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PATIENTS AND METHODS

Study design and patients

This multicenter, retrospective, observational study included STEMI patients treated with PCI at 39 PCI hospitals in Hebei Province from January 2018 to December 2019. The training set patients enrolled from January 2018 to December 2018 and the testing set patients enrolled from January 2019 to December 2019.

The diagnostic criteria of acute STEMI based on their
the diagnostic criteria of acute STEMI based on their
al damage markers and other test results and underw
? 2017 ESC guidelines for the management of STEMI
discomfort o All patients met the diagnostic criteria of acute STEMI based on their symptoms and/or ECG, myocardial damage markers and other test results and underwent primary PCI according to the 2017 ESC guidelines for the management of STEMI [6], namely with persistent chest discomfort or other symptoms suggestive of ischemia and ST-segment elevation in at least two contiguous leads. Patients with non-ST segment myocardial infarction (NSTEMI) or unstable angina or STEMI patients who did not undergo PCI were excluded.

The study was approved by the Ethics Committees of Hebei General Hospital as the lead center and the ethics committee of each participating hospital. The requirement for informed consent was waived by the committee. The study was conducted according to the tenets of the Declaration of Helsinki for Medical Research Involving Human Subjects and Good Clinical Practice.

Patient and Public Involvement

Patients or the public were not involved in the design or reporting or dissemination plans of our research as this study is a retrospective, observational study. Patients were involved in the conduct of the trial by sharing medical records during the visits.

Data collection

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iplatelet agents, β-blo Demographics (age, sex, and BMI), medical history (hypertension, diabetes mellitus, atrial fibrillation (AF), hypertension and family history of coronary artery disease (CAD), stroke, renal failure, and peripheral artery disease), angiographic characteristics and information of cardiac procedures (disease condition, TIMI flow grade, number and length of stents, use of intra-aortic balloon pump (IABP), use of temporary pacemaker, use of ventilator, and whether there was no-reflow, coronary perforation, and cardiac arrest), medications on admission (antiplatelet agents, β-blockers, nitrate, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors (ACEI), angiotensin receptor blockers (ARB), and statin), biochemical markers (N/L ratio), hematocrit (HCT), hemoglobin (HGB), platelets (PLT), and random blood glucose on admission), and left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) after PCI were extracted from the medical charts. All treatments were according to the current guidelines.

Nomogram construction

Demographics, medical history, vital signs before and after PCI, and auxiliary examinations were evaluated using univariable logistic regression. Variables with P<0.05 in the univariable logistic analyses were included for multivariable logistic analysis and nomogram construction. Receiver operator characteristic (ROC) curve analysis was used to quantify the prediction performance of the nomogram. A calibration curve was used to evaluate the calibration of the nomogram, and its goodness of fit was assessed using the Hosmer-Lemeshow test. Finally, the clinical usefulness of the nomogram was accessed using a decision curve analysis (DCA).

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Statistical analysis

Statistical analyses were performed using R version 4.0.3 (R Foundation for Statistical Computing) with RStudio (version 1.3.959; RStudio, Auckland, New Zealand). R packages used in this study were rms, reader, tableone, pROC, ResourceSelection, and rmda. The predictive accuracy of the nomogram was measured using the C-statistic (Bootstrap method, 1000 times). Calibration was evaluated using the Hosmer-Lemeshow statistic. Categorical variables were presented as frequencies with percentages, normally distributed continuous variables as means \pm SD, and other data as medians with interquartile ranges (IQRs). Categorical variables were compared using the chi-square test or Fisher's test if the expected cell count was <5. Student's t-test was used to compare normally distributed continuous variables. Otherwise, the Mann-Whitney U-test was used. The significance level was set at 0.05, and two-sided tests were used.

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RESULTS

Characteristics of the patients

The whole study population consisted of 855 patients diagnosed with STEMI and who underwent PCI, including 396 in the training set (132 (33.3%) dead patients and 264 (66.7%) survivors) and 459 (91 (19.8%) dead patients, and 368 (80.2%) survivors) in the test set (Figure 1). The clinical characteristics, including demographic, medical history, angiographic characteristics, and information of cardiac procedures, medications, and biochemical markers, are summarized in Table 1. The patients who died in the hospital were older $(69.8\pm10.2 \text{ vs. } 60.2\pm12.6 \text{ years}, P<0.01)$, more likely to be women $(32.7\% \text{ vs. } 60.2\pm12.6 \text{ years}, P<0.01)$. 21.5%, P<0.01), and more had complications like hypertension, AF, and hyperlipidemia.

Nomogram construction

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aracteristics, and information of cardiac procedures,
kers, are summarized in Table 1. The patients who di-
 ± 10.2 vs. 60.2 ± 12.6 years, P<0.01), more likely to be w
 According to the multivariable logistic analysis, the 10 variables were found to meet the threshold of P<0.05. Age (OR=1.069, 95% CI=1.048-1.092, P=0.049), BMI (OR=0.55, 95% CI=0.31=0.87, P=0.019), SBP on admission (OR=0.92, 95% CI=0.86-0.97, P=0.009), HGB (OR=0.85, 95% CI=0.73-0.97, P=0.017), random blood glucose on admission (OR=1.53, 95% CI=1.13-2.21, P=0.011), EF after PCI (OR=0.89, 95% CI=0.80-0.97, P=0.015), aspirin (OR=0.001, 95% CI=0.009-0.04, P=0.001), N/L ratio (OR=1.34, 95% CI=1.12-1.69, P=0.004), long lesions (OR=2.00, 95% CI=1.310-3.084, P<0.001), and TIMI flow grade $(OR=2.15, 95\% \text{ CI}=1.242-3.900, P=0.008)$ were independently associated with in-hospital mortality after PCI of STEMI (Table 2). The nomogram is shown in Figure 2. The formula for calculating the total point of the nomogram is 15.5628+0.0320×age-0.2991×BMI-0.0184×SBP-0.0331×HGB+0.3663×random blood

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glucose on admission-0.1188×LVEF after PCI-4.7705×aspirin+0.0521×N/L ratio-2.4688×long leisions+5.1018×TIMI flow grade.

Evaluation of the nomogram

PLAND DE In the training set, the C-index was 0.947, indicating that the prediction model was valuable in clinical practice (Figure 3a). The value of goodness-of-fit was 0.683, indicating a good prediction accuracy. The ROC curve is shown in Figure 4a (AUC=0.947, 95% CI: 0.927- 0.967). Figure 5a shows the DCA curve for the training set, indicating that the nomogram had a high overall net benefit in predicting in-hospital mortality after PCI treatment. In the testing set, the C-index was 0.891. Figure 3b shows the calibration curve, and the value of goodness-of-fit was 0.462. The ROC curve is shown in Figure 4b (AUC=0.891, 95% CI: 0.844-0.939). The DCA curve is shown in Figure 5b. The results of the testing set indicate that the nomogram had good discrimination and good prediction accuracy and could achieve a good net benefit.

DISCUSSION

In this study, a relatively accurate clinical nomogram was constructed, which demonstrated adequate discrimination and calibration power to provide an individualized estimation for the in-hospital mortality in STEMI patients after PCI. For the construction of the nomogram, 10 significant predictors were screened by multivariable logistic analysis.

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redance with other analyses of STEMI patients and und
elderly patients, as they usually present with more
an younger p In this study, men with STEMI overall experienced a lower unadjusted in-hospital mortality than women (OR=0.503, 95%CI: 0.320-0.792), but the difference y became nonsignificant after multivariable adjustments. Age was an independent risk factor of STEMI patients, in accordance with other analyses of STEMI patients and underlining the highrisk profile of elderly patients, as they usually present with more risk factors and comorbidities than younger patients [18, 19]. High mortality in the older patients might also result from end-organ dysfunction, competing risks might also offset the benefits from reperfusion, such that successful outcomes are more dependent on overall health issues. In accordance with previous studies [8, 10, 12, 19-23], predictors for a worse clinical outcome are associated with age, such as the higher prevalence of renal insufficiency, lower LVEF, and longer delay times. Therefore, for older patients, some authors have also questioned the benefit of reperfusion therapy [20]. This point is of great importance as Medina et al. [24] reported that patients undergoing primary PCI or thrombolysis had lower in-hospital mortality compared with the no reperfusion strategy.

The present study showed that a lower BMI was an independent risk factor for in-hospital death. The previous view is that obesity increases insulin resistance, worsens plasma lipid profiles, and increases arterial blood pressure, and thus has adverse effects on patients with CAD through the indirect effects of other risk factors (such as hypertension, impaired

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glucose tolerance, and hyperinsulinemia) [25]. Therefore, obese patients demonstrate greater adverse left ventricle (LV) remodeling and more impaired LV deformation after STEMI compared with those similar infarct characteristics but normal BMI [21, 26]. Interestingly, on the other hand, some studies have shown the so-called "obesity paradox", whereby obesity is related to better clinical outcomes [23, 25, 27, 28], consistent with the present study. Fukuoka et al. [29] reported that this phenomenon is only observed in elderly patients, not in younger patients, so the influence of BMI on risk factors for death might vary with age. Nevertheless, obesity is currently recognized as a risk factor for the longterm prognosis of patients with CAD, and it is worth recommending maintaining BMI at a normal level [29].

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1. As a key factor in the inflammatory response, neutrophils play an irreplaceable role in STEMI. Lymphocytes reflect the body's stress level. Acute stress has been shown to regulate the immune response of lymphocytes and reduce the number of peripheral blood lymphocytes. The smaller the value, the higher the body's stress level. Therefore, the N/L ratio is an index for systemic inflammatory status and usually increases after STEMI [30- 32]. Pan et al. [33] demonstrated the independent association between increased N/L ratio and short-term mortality in STEMI patients after PCI. The predictive value of the N/L ratio may be based on the following reasons. Stimulated neutrophils release superoxide radicals, proteolytic enzymes, and arachidonic acid metabolites that increase the infarct size and lead to cardiac electrical instability by damaging endothelial cells, activating coagulation cascade, aggregation of leukocytic cells, and plugging the micro-arteries [34]. These actions will participate in the extension of the areas of myocardial infarction, impaired epicardial and microvascular perfusion, no-reflow/slow flow during PCI, decreased

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ejection fraction (LVEF), and post-infarction death [35-37].

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41]. Thus, acute hyperglycemia is associated with a
ht contribute to a The acute phase of STEMI leads to insulin resistance, glucose intolerance, and hyperglycemia. The elevated levels of cytokines, growth hormone, glucagon, and cortisol result in increased hepatic glucose production. Hepatic glycogenolysis is further enhanced by catecholamines that also inhibit glycogenesis and stimulate the release of free fatty acids (FFAs). High concentrations of FFAs will increase myocardial oxygen requirement, reduce myocardial activity and contractility, impair calcium homeostasis and increase the production of free radicals, leading to an increased risk of myocardial damage and arrhythmias [38-41]. Thus, acute hyperglycemia is associated with adverse metabolic effects that might contribute to a poor outcome. Previous studies reported that higher admission glucose was strongly correlated with larger infarct size, lower LVEF, and increased mortality risk in patients with and without diabetes [22, 42]. Exercise training, dietary modifications, and medical intervention might reduce the mortality risk in such patients. Intervention in the hospital, such as tight glycemic control during early PCI or at least within 24 h after STEMI, is also beneficial [43, 44].

Lower admission HGB was associated with higher in-hospital mortality when analyzed as a continuous variable (OR=0.966, 95%CI: 0.954-0.978). The time from onset of precordial pain to coronary angiography in patients with AMI is inversely proportional to the drop in HGB concentration [45]. HGB levels and inflammation are closely related; in patients with inflammation, an abundance of hepcidin leads to poor uptake of iron from the gastrointestinal tract, iron sequestration in macrophages, little iron recycling to the erythron for red-cell production, and microcytic anemia, and this process is termed inflammatory block [46].

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or and applied to the protect aggles and anticed coording clot on top of a ruptured plaque and, converse it these proven benefits, some studies revealed the existed y that prior aspirin use may predispose to worse outcom g Because of the important role of platelets in thrombus formation, the present study showed that prior aspirin use could reduce in-hospital mortality of STEMI patients after PCI, as supported by earlier clinical trials [47, 48]. Weidmann et al. [48] provided evidence suggesting that pre-existing treatment with aspirin favorably affected the clinical presentation, infarct size, and degree of inflammation of patients with STEMI. Yonetsu et al. [49] reported that aspirin inhibits platelet aggregation and therefore reduces the probability of an occluding clot on top of a ruptured plaque and, conversely, the occurrence of STEMI. Despite these proven benefits, some studies revealed the existence of an "aspirin paradox", namely that prior aspirin use may predispose to worse outcomes than those not previously taking aspirin, such as recurrent MI and ischemic events [50, 51]. Previous studies indicated that lesion length is associated with long-term adverse events after PCI and is an important risk factor for restenosis and stent thrombosis [52-54]. A longer lesion, with its greater plaque burden, is conceived to provide a major source of smooth muscle cells that will then proliferate to form neointima. Atherosclerotic plaques have often been found to demonstrate an increased expression of isoforms characteristic of activated smooth muscle cells that are not present in normal vasculature [55]. Still, there are few studies on lesion length and in-hospital mortality, and further studies are still necessary. Preprocedural reperfusion might have a prognostic value [56]. A strong relationship exists between preprocedural TIMI flow grade and infarct size and predischarge LVEF [57]. SBP is a critical factor, and hypotension was associated with a decrease in survival [58].

A nomogram is a simple and intuitive representation of a mathematical model that allows calculating clinical scores [59]. In addition, to be of clinical usefulness in a routine setting,

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the nomogram must contain variables assessed in the routine clinical setting, which is the case with the nomogram developed here. The results indicate that the nomogram had good discrimination and good prediction accuracy and could achieve good net benefit. Another nomogram based on other variables (left main coronary artery disease, grading of thrombus, TIMI classification, slow flow, use of IABP, use of β-blocker, use of ACEI/ARB, symptom-to-door time, symptom-to-balloon time, syntax score, LVEF, and CK-MB peak) also showed a high AUC for in-hospital mortality of patients with STEMI after PCI [60]. Nevertheless, since the two nomograms were obtained in different study populations, the two nomograms should be compared within the same study.

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This study Some study limitations should be mentioned. This study has limitations that are inherent to retrospective observational studies. The data were obtained retrospectively, which can lead to less reliable information. As the ischemic time is shortened as much as possible, patients whose symptoms and/or ECG can be diagnosed are directly treated with PCI. Therefore, other potential risk factors in our study, such as LVEF before PCI, could not be included in the analyses. Further studies are still necessary to confirm the performance of the clinical nomogram in future investigations.

In conclusion, a nomogram to predict in-hospital mortality in patients with STEMI after PCI was developed and validated in Hebei, China. The nomogram showed a satisfactory performance, with a C-index of 0.948. Thus, this nomogram might be a precisely individualized predictive tool for prognosis. Still, additional studies are needed to determine whether it can be applied to other populations before its implementation in clinical practice.

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None.

Competing Interests

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is work have nothing to disclose. The authors of this work have nothing to disclose.

Ethical standards disclosure

The study was approved by the Ethics Committees of Hebei General Hospital as the lead center and the ethics committee of each participating hospital (No. 202144). The requirement for informed consent was waived by the committee. The study was conducted according to the tenets of the Declaration of Helsinki for Medical Research Involving Human Subjects and Good Clinical Practice.

Authors' contribution

Yudan Wang, Man Gao and Shihang Zheng carried out the studies, participated in collecting data, and drafted the manuscript. Yudan Wang, Yi Dang and Xiaoyong Qi performed the statistical analysis and participated in its design. Shengqi Jia, Jiaqi Wang and Yingxiao Li helped to draft the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

Data sharing statement

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All data generated or analyzed during this study are included in this published article.

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Table 1 Clinical characteristics of the patients used to construct the nomogram

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BMI: body mass index; SBP: systolic blood pressure; DBP: diastolic blood pressure; DM: diabetes mellitus; PCI: percutaneous coronary intervention; CABG: coronary artery bypass graft; CAD: coronary atherosclerotic heart disease; AF: atrial fibrillation; HF: heart failure; IABP: intra-aortic balloon pump; MI: myocardial infarction; LAD: left anterior descending branch; N/L ratio: neutrophils/lymphocytes ratio; HCT: hematocrit; HGB: hemoglobin; PLT: platelets; EF: ejection fraction; ACEI: angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor; ARB: angiotensin receptor blocker.

Table 2 Variables selected as predictors for the nomogram according to the multivariable logistic analysis

OR: odds ratio; CI: confidence interval; BMI: body mass index; SBP: systolic blood pressure; HGB: hemoglobin; EF: ejection fraction; PCI: percutaneous coronary intervention; N/L ratio: neutrophils/lymphocytes ratio; TIMI: thrombolysis in myocardial infarction.

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Figure legends

Figure 1. Flowchart illustrating the process of patient selection.

Figure 2. The nomogram for the prediction of in-hospital mortality in patients with acute ST-elevation myocardial infarction after primary PCI. BMI: body mass index; SBP: systolic blood pressure; HGB: hemoglobin; EF: ejection fraction; N/L ratio: neutrophils/lymphocytes ratio.

Figure 3. The calibration curves of the nomogram for the training set (A) and the testing set (B) .

Figure 4. The received operating characteristics (ROC) curves of the nomogram for the training set (A) and the testing set (B).

For Pulse Plan **Figure 5.** The decision curve analysis (DCA) for the risk model for the training set (A) and the testing set (B).

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Figure 3. The calibration curves of the nomogram for the training set (A) and the testing set (B).

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Figure 4. The received operating characteristics (ROC) curves of the nomogram for the training set (A) and the testing set (B).

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Figure 5. The decision curve analysis (DCA) for the risk model for the training set (A) and the testing set (B).
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*Give information separately for cases and controls in case-control studies and, if applicable, for exposed and unexposed groups in cohort and cross-sectional studies. **Note:** An Explanation and Elaboration article discusses each checklist item and gives methodological background and published examples of transparent reporting. The STROBE checklist is best used in conjunction with this article (freely available on the Web sites of PLoS Medicine at http://www.plosmedicine.org/, Annals of Internal Medicine at http://www.annals.org/, and Epidemiology at http://www.epidem.com/). Information on the STROBE Initiative is available at www.strobe-statement.org.

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A nomogram for the prediction of in-hospital mortality in patients with acute ST-elevation myocardial infarction after primary percutaneous coronary intervention: a multicentre, retrospective, observation study in Hebei Province, China

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ABSTRACT

 Objectives: To establish a clinical prognostic nomogram for predicting in-hospital mortality after primary percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) among patients with ST-

elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI).

Design: Retrospective, multicenter, observational study.

Setting: Thirty-nine hospitals in Hebei Province.

 Participants: Patients with STEMI who underwent PCI from January 2018 to December 2019.

 Interventions: A multivariable logistic regression model was used to identify the factors associated with in-hospital mortality. Then, they were incorporated into a nomogram. The performance of the nomogram was evaluated by the discrimination, calibration, and clinical usefulness.

 Primary and secondary outcome measures: The outcome was the factors associated with in-hospital mortality.

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in-hospital mortality. Then, they were incorporated into

the nomogram was evaluated by the discrimination,

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 condary Results: This study included 855 patients, among whom 223 died in hospital. Age, Body Mass Index (BMI), systolic pressure on admission, hemoglobin, random blood glucose on admission, ejection fraction after PCI, use aspirin before admission, long lesions, thrombolysis in myocardial infarction (TIMI) flow grade, and neutrophils/lymphocytes 19 ratio (N/L ratio) were independently associated with in-hospital mortality (all P<0.05). In the training set, the nomogram showed a C-index of 0.947, goodness-of-fit of 0.683, and area under the receiver operating characteristic curve (AUC) of 0.947 (95%CI=0.927- 0.967). In the testing set, the C-index was 0.891, goodness-of-fit was 0.462, and AUC was 0.891 (95%CI=0.844-0.939). The results indicate that the nomogram had good

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imitations of this study

ulti-center study, included 39 tertiary centers and 855 p

23, 26.1%) who died in the hospital.

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emissing information.

Spective studies discrimination and good prediction accuracy and could achieve a good net benefit. **Conclusions:** A nomogram to predict in-hospital mortality in patients with STEMI after PCI was developed and validated in Hebei, China and showed a satisfactory performance **Keywords:** nomogram; ST-elevated myocardial infarction; percutaneous coronary intervention; in-hospital mortality **Strengths and limitations of this study** - This is a multi-center study, included 39 tertiary centers and 855 patients, including more patients (223, 26.1%) who died in the hospital. - The data were obtained retrospectively and some patients died during the PCI, which can lead to some missing information. - Further prospective studies are still necessary to confirm the performance of the clinical applicability in future investigations and verify the practicality in ICU.

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INTRODUCTION

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 Primary percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) has become the preferred reperfusion strategy in patients with STEMI according to the current clinical guidelines for STEMI in the United States and Europe 6 7. Nevertheless, even if such patients receive timely PCI and/or appropriate antiplatelet drugs, the prognosis is still poor, and a substantial number of patients still die in-hospital after PCI. About 6% of STEMI patients die in the hospital ³

 Various studies examined the risk factors of short- and long-term mortality of STEMI patients after PCI 10-12. Guidelines encourage the use of clinical scores such as the thrombolysis in myocardial infarction (TIMI) or The Global Registry of Acute Coronary 23 Events (GRACE) for STEMI to assess early- and long-term risk . Several biomarkers

19 ⁸⁹. Therefore, there is still room for improving the short-term outcomes after PCI.

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 have been reported to confer independent prognostic information after STEMI, including Cardiac Troponin (cTn), Brain Natriuretic Peptide (BNP), amino-terminal pro-Brain 3 Natriuretic Peptide (NT-proBNP), and D-dimer ¹⁴⁻¹⁷. Unfortunately, these studies often exclude patients with advanced age, liver or kidney dysfunction, and other comorbidities and complications. Therefore, the generalizability of those studies is limited, and it is difficult to summarize and reflect the real-world treatment situation comprehensively.

For peer review only Therefore, the objective of this study was to develop a clinical nomogram for predicting in-hospital mortality of patients with STEMI after PCI. The results could provide clinical guidance and improve the outcome of STEMI patients.

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PATIENTS AND METHODS

Study design and patients

 This multicenter, retrospective, observational study included STEMI patients treated with PCI at 39 PCI hospitals in Hebei Province from January 2018 to December 2019. The cohort was divided into a training set and a time-independent validation set. The training set refers to the use of modeled data to verify the predictive effect of the model, while test set is to use another set of patients' data (namely external data) to verify the prediction accuracy of the model. The training set patients enrolled from January 2018 to December 2018 and the testing set patients enrolled from January 2019 to December 2019.

Solve of involved and to verify and predictive errote of the set of patients' data (namely external data) to vermodel. The training set patients enrolled from January 2019 to December the diagnostic criteria of acute STEMI All patients met the diagnostic criteria of acute STEMI based on their symptoms and/or ECG, myocardial damage markers and other test results and underwent primary PCI 12 according to the 2017 ESC guidelines for the management of STEMI⁶, namely with persistent chest discomfort or other symptoms suggestive of ischemia and ST-segment elevation in at least two contiguous leads. Patients with non-ST segment myocardial infarction (NSTEMI) or unstable angina or STEMI patients who did not undergo PCI were excluded. Patients who were re-admitted to the hospital for revascularization of non- criminal vessels were also excluded. The treatment strategy after PCI of surviving patients is determined by the doctor in charge in accordance with relevant guidelines.

 The study was approved by the Ethics Committees of Hebei General Hospital as the lead center and the ethics committee of each participating hospital. The requirement for informed consent was waived by the committee. The study was conducted according to the tenets of the Declaration of Helsinki for Medical Research Involving Human Subjects and Good Clinical Practice.

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 glucose on admission), and left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) after PCI were extracted from the medical charts. All treatments were according to the current guidelines.

Nomogram construction

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the logistic analyses were included for multivariable log
truction. Receiver operator characteristic (ROC) curve a
rediction performance of the nomogram. A calib Demographics, medical history, vital signs before and after PCI, and auxiliary examinations were evaluated using univariable logistic regression. Variables with P<0.05 in the univariable logistic analyses were included for multivariable logistic analysis and nomogram construction. Receiver operator characteristic (ROC) curve analysis was used to quantify the prediction performance of the nomogram. A calibration curve was used to evaluate the calibration of the nomogram, and its goodness of fit was assessed using the Hosmer-Lemeshow test. Finally, the clinical usefulness of the nomogram was accessed using a decision curve analysis (DCA).

Statistical analysis

 Statistical analyses were performed using R version 4.0.3 (R Foundation for Statistical Computing) with RStudio (version 1.3.959; RStudio, Auckland, New Zealand). R packages used in this study were rms, reader, tableone, pROC, ResourceSelection, and rmda. The predictive accuracy of the nomogram was measured using the C-statistic (Bootstrap method, 1000 times). Calibration was evaluated using the Hosmer-Lemeshow statistic. Categorical variables were presented as frequencies with percentages, normally distributed 21 continuous variables as means \pm SD, and other data as medians with interquartile ranges (IQRs). Categorical variables were compared using the chi-square test or Fisher's test if the expected cell count was <5. Student's t-test was used to compare normally distributed

- continuous variables. Otherwise, the Mann-Whitney U-test was used. The significance
- level was set at 0.05, and two-sided tests were used.

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RESULTS

Characteristics of the patients

For the same dialogenesis, including demographic,
aracteristics, and information of cardiac procedures,
kers, are summarized in Table 1. The patients who di-
 ± 10.2 vs. 60.2 ± 12.6 years, P<0.01), more likely to be w The whole study population consisted of 855 patients diagnosed with STEMI and who underwent PCI, including 396 in the training set (132 (33.3%) dead patients and 264 (66.7%) survivors) and 459 (91 (19.8%) dead patients, and 368 (80.2%) survivors) in the test set (Figure 1). The clinical characteristics, including demographic, medical history, angiographic characteristics, and information of cardiac procedures, medications, and biochemical markers, are summarized in Table 1. The patients who died in the hospital 9 were older $(69.8\pm10.2 \text{ vs. } 60.2\pm12.6 \text{ years}, P<0.01)$, more likely to be women $(32.7\% \text{ vs. } 60.2\pm12.6 \text{ years}, P<0.01)$ 21.5%, P<0.01), and more had complications like hypertension, AF, and hyperlipidemia. 11 The hospital stay was 8.51±5.11 days in the training set and 8.32±4.70 days in the test set.

Nomogram construction

 According to the multivariable logistic analysis, the 10 variables were found to meet the threshold of P<0.05. Age (OR=1.069, 95% CI=1.048-1.092, P=0.049), BMI (OR=0.55, 95% CI=0.31=0.87, P=0.019), SBP on admission (OR=0.92, 95% CI=0.86-0.97, P=0.009), HGB (OR=0.85, 95% CI=0.73-0.97, P=0.017), random blood glucose on admission (OR=1.53, 95% CI=1.13-2.21, P=0.011), EF after PCI (OR=0.89, 95% CI=0.80-0.97, P=0.015), aspirin (OR=0.001, 95% CI=0.009-0.04, P=0.001), N/L ratio (OR=1.34, 95% CI=1.12-1.69, P=0.004), long lesions (OR=2.00, 95% CI=1.310-3.084, P<0.001), and TIMI flow grade (OR=2.15, 95% CI=1.242-3.900, P=0.008) were independently associated with in-hospital mortality after PCI of STEMI (Table 2). The nomogram is shown in Figure 2. The formula for calculating the total point of the nomogram is

 15.5628+0.0320×age-0.2991×BMI-0.0184×SBP-0.0331×HGB+0.3663×random blood glucose on admission-0.1188×LVEF after PCI-4.7705×aspirin+0.0521×N/L ratio- 2.4688×long leisions+5.1018×TIMI flow grade.

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Evaluation of the nomogram

examples the prediction in Equation 2013. The value of goodness-of-fit was 0.683, acy. The ROC curve is shown in Figure 4a (AUC=0.94'
a shows the DCA curve for the training set, indicating the shows the DCA curve for the t In the training set, the C-index was 0.947, indicating that the prediction model was valuable in clinical practice (Figure 3a). The value of goodness-of-fit was 0.683, indicating a good 8 prediction accuracy. The ROC curve is shown in Figure 4a (AUC=0.947, 95% CI: 0.927- 0.967). Figure 5a shows the DCA curve for the training set, indicating that the nomogram had a high overall net benefit in predicting in-hospital mortality after PCI treatment. In the testing set, the C-index was 0.891. Figure 3b shows the calibration curve, and the 12 value of goodness-of-fit was 0.462. The ROC curve is shown in Figure 4b (AUC=0.891, 95% CI: 0.844-0.939). The DCA curve is shown in Figure 5b. The results of the testing set indicate that the nomogram had good discrimination and good prediction accuracy and could achieve a good net benefit.

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DISCUSSION

 In this study, a relatively accurate clinical nomogram was constructed, which demonstrated adequate discrimination and calibration power to provide an individualized estimation for the in-hospital mortality in STEMI patients after PCI. For the construction of the nomogram, 10 significant predictors were screened by multivariable logistic analysis.

F STEMI patients and underlining the high-risk profile of STEMI patients and underlining the high-risk profile of ersent with more risk factors and comorbidities than you erer prevalence of renal insufficiency, lower LVEF In our study, age was an independent risk factor of STEMI patients, in accordance with other analyses of STEMI patients and underlining the high-risk profile of elderly patients, 8 as they usually present with more risk factors and comorbidities than younger patients²⁰²¹, such as the higher prevalence of renal insufficiency, lower LVEF. High mortality in the older patients might also result from end-organ dysfunction, competing risks might also offset the benefits from reperfusion, such that successful outcomes are more dependent on overall health issues. Therefore, for older patients, some authors have also questioned the 13 benefit of reperfusion therapy²².

 The previous view is that obesity increases insulin resistance, worsens plasma lipid profiles, and increases arterial blood pressure, and thus has adverse effects on patients with CAD through the indirect effects of other risk factors (such as hypertension, impaired glucose 17 tolerance, and hyperinsulinemia) ²³. Therefore, obese patients demonstrate greater adverse left ventricle (LV) remodeling and more impaired LV deformation after STEMI compared 19 with those similar infarct characteristics but normal BMI $^{24\,25}$. Interestingly, some studies have shown the so-called "obesity paradox", whereby obesity is related to better clinical 21 outcomes 23 $^{26-28}$, consistent with the present study. Fukuoka et al. 29 reported that this phenomenon is only observed in elderly patients, not in younger patients, so the influence of BMI on risk factors for death might vary with age. Nevertheless, obesity is currently

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 recognized as a risk factor for the long-term prognosis of patients with CAD, and it is worth recommending maintaining BMI at a normal level ²⁹.

ed N/L ratio and short-term mortality in STEMI patier
of the N/L ratio may be based on the following rease
superoxide radicals, proteolytic enzymes, and
increase the infarct size and lead to cardiac electri-
nelial cells, Acute stress has been shown to regulate the immune response of lymphocytes and reduce the number of peripheral blood lymphocytes. The smaller the value, the higher the body's stress level. Therefore, the N/L ratio, as an index for systemic inflammatory status and 6 usually increases after STEMI $30-32$. Pan et al. 33 demonstrated the independent association between increased N/L ratio and short-term mortality in STEMI patients after PCI. The predictive value of the N/L ratio may be based on the following reasons. Stimulated neutrophils release superoxide radicals, proteolytic enzymes, and arachidonic acid metabolites that increase the infarct size and lead to cardiac electrical instability by damaging endothelial cells, activating coagulation cascade, aggregation of leukocytic cells, 12 and plugging the micro-arteries . These actions will participate in the extension of the areas of myocardial infarction, impaired epicardial and microvascular perfusion, no-reflow/slow flow during PCI, decreased LVEF, and post-infarction death 35-37.

 The acute phase of STEMI leads to insulin resistance, glucose intolerance, and hyperglycemia. The elevated levels of cytokines, growth hormone, glucagon, and cortisol result in increased hepatic glucose production. Hepatic glycogenolysis is further enhanced by catecholamines that also inhibit glycogenesis and stimulate the release of free fatty acids (FFAs). High concentrations of FFAs will increase myocardial oxygen requirement, reduce myocardial activity and contractility, impair calcium homeostasis and increase the production of free radicals, leading to an increased risk of myocardial damage and 22 arrhythmias ³⁸⁻⁴¹. Thus, acute hyperglycemia might contribute to a poor outcome. Previous studies reported that higher admission glucose was strongly correlated with larger infarct Page 15 of 48

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1 size, lower LVEF, and increased mortality risk in patients with and without diabetes $42\frac{43}{1}$. Exercise training, dietary modifications, and intervention in the hospital, such as tight glycemic control during early PCI or at least within 24 h after STEMI might reduce the 4 mortality risk in such patients ^{44 45}.

 Lower admission HGB was associated with higher in-hospital mortality when analyzed as a continuous variable (OR=0.966, 95%CI: 0.954-0.978). The total ischemic time in patients with AMI is inversely proportional to the drop in HGB concentration ⁴⁶. HGB levels and inflammation are closely related; in patients with inflammation, inflammation block occurs, that is, an abundance of hepcidin leads to poor uptake of iron from the gastrointestinal tract, iron sequestration in macrophages, little iron recycling to the erythron for red-cell 11 production, and microcytic anemia, which can cause a lower HGB level. ⁴⁷.

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on in macrophages, little iron recycling to Because of the important role of platelets in thrombus formation, the present study showed that prior aspirin use could reduce in-hospital mortality of STEMI patients after PCI, as 14 supported by earlier clinical trials ^{48 49}. Weidmann et al. ⁴⁹ provided evidence suggesting that pre-existing treatment with aspirin favorably affected the clinical presentation, infarct size, and degree of inflammation of patients with STEMI. Yonetsu et al. ⁵⁰ reported that aspirin inhibits platelet aggregation and therefore reduces the probability of an occluding clot on top of a ruptured plaque and, conversely, the occurrence of STEMI.

 Previous studies indicated that lesion length is associated with long-term adverse events 20 after PCI and is an important risk factor for restenosis and stent thrombosis $51-53$. A longer lesion, with its greater plaque burden, is conceived to provide a major source of smooth muscle cells that will then proliferate to form neointima. Atherosclerotic plaques have often been found to demonstrate an increased expression of isoforms characteristic of activated

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1 smooth muscle cells that are not present in normal vasculature ⁵⁴. Still, there are few studies on lesion length and in-hospital mortality, and further studies are still necessary. 3 Preprocedural reperfusion might have a prognostic value ⁵⁵. A strong relationship exists 4 between preprocedural TIMI flow grade and infarct size and predischarge LVEF ⁵⁶. SBP is a critical factor, and hypotension was associated with a decrease in survival ⁵⁷.

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16 The nomogram is a simple and intuitive representation of the mathematical model ⁵⁹. In addition, to be of clinical usefulness in a routine setting, the nomogram must contain variables assessed in the routine clinical setting, which is the case with the nomogram developed here. It can simplify the statistical prediction model to the numerical probability of disease recurrence or death. The identification and stratification of patients becomes a simple tool with many advantages. The most prominent advantage is that it can predict Page 17 of 48

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their use actually improves the prognosis of patients
plored how this risk model can be better applied to the
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disea individualized risks based on patient and disease characteristics. Secondly, it is easy to use and can help doctors develop individualized treatment plans. However, although the current clinical use of nomograms has increased, there are limited data on patient satisfaction or quality of life after it assists in medical decision-making. In addition, although nomograms are widely used clinically, they are rarely evaluated prospectively to 6 determine whether their use actually improves the prognosis of patients^{60 61}. Therefore, it remains to be explored how this risk model can be better applied to the clinic. The results indicate that the nomogram had good discrimination and good prediction accuracy and could achieve good net benefit. Another nomogram based on other variables (left main coronary artery disease, grading of thrombus, TIMI classification, slow flow, use of IABP, use of β-blocker, use of ACEI/ARB, symptom-to-door time, symptom-to-balloon time, syntax score, LVEF, and CK-MB peak) also showed a high AUC for in-hospital mortality of patients with STEMI after PCI ⁶². We think there may be three main reasons: different research methods, the hospitals and time nodes that included patients are different and different statistical methods. Nevertheless, we are planning to combine the two parts of patients to get a more accurate risk model of in-hospital mortality.

 Some study limitations should be mentioned. 1. This study has limitations that are inherent to retrospective observational studies. Many hospitals and doctors involved, which can lead to some missing information, such as liver enzymes, more information regarding the PCI procedure and other inflammatory index. 2. As the ischemic time is shortened as much as

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 possible, patients whose symptoms and/or ECG can be diagnosed are directly treated with PCI. Therefore, other potential risk factors in our study, such as LVEF before PCI, could not be included in the analyses. And because some patients died during the PCI, resulting in the lack of postoperative treatment information. However, further prospective studies are still necessary to confirm the performance of the clinical applicability in future investigations and verify the practicality in ICU. In conclusion, a nomogram to predict in-hospital mortality in patients with STEMI after

PLANS PCI was developed and validated in Hebei, China. The nomogram showed a satisfactory performance, with a C-index of 0.948. Thus, this nomogram might be a precisely individualized predictive tool for prognosis. Still, additional studies are needed to determine whether it can be applied to other populations before its implementation in clinical practice.

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10 Competing Interests

The authors of this work have nothing to disclose.

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Authors' contribution

 Yudan Wang, Wenjing Wang, Man Gao and Shihang Zheng carried out the studies, participated in collecting data, and drafted the manuscript. Yudan Wang, Yi Dang and Xiaoyong Qi performed the statistical analysis and participated in its design. Shengqi Jia,

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Table 2 Variables selected as predictors for the nomogram according to the multivariable logistic analysis

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OR: odds ratio; CI: confidence interval; BMI: body mass index; SBP: systolic blood pressure; HGB: hemoglobin; EF: ejection fraction;

PCI: percutaneous coronary intervention; N/L ratio: neutrophils/lymphocytes ratio; TIMI: thrombolysis in myocardial infarction

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Figure 3. The calibration curves of the nomogram for the training set (A) and the testing set (B).

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Figure 4. The received operating characteristics (ROC) curves of the nomogram for the training set (A) and the testing set (B).

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Figure 5. The decision curve analysis (DCA) for the risk model for the training set (A) and the testing set (B).
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*Give information separately for cases and controls in case-control studies and, if applicable, for exposed and unexposed groups in cohort and cross-sectional studies. **Note:** An Explanation and Elaboration article discusses each checklist item and gives methodological background and published examples of transparent reporting. The STROBE checklist is best used in conjunction with this article (freely available on the Web sites of PLoS Medicine at http://www.plosmedicine.org/, Annals of Internal Medicine at http://www.annals.org/, and Epidemiology at http://www.epidem.com/). Information on the STROBE Initiative is available at www.strobe-statement.org.

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TRAPOD

TRIPOD Checklist: Prediction Model Development and Validation

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*Items relevant only to the development of a prediction model are denoted by D, items relating solely to a validation of a prediction model are denoted by V, and items relating to both are denoted D;V. We recommend using the TRIPOD Checklist in conjunction with the TRIPOD

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patient prognosis and development of emerg ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI), a type of coronary artery disease 3 (CAD), is a common clinical emergency and critical illness ¹. STEMI is most often caused by plaque rupture of an atherosclerotic lesion in the affected (culprit) coronary 5 artery followed by total occlusion of the vessel lumen with a thrombus $2³$. Common risk factors for STEMI are tobacco abuse, dyslipidemias, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, and 7 a family history of CAD⁴. In recent years, with well-established diagnosis and treatment guidelines, continuous standardization of the treatment of STEMI, increasing evidence of determinants of patient prognosis and development of emerging technologies, there has been a considerable reduction in STEMI mortality; still, mortality seems to have 11 plateaued ³. Primary percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) has become the preferred reperfusion strategy in patients with STEMI according to the current clinical guidelines for STEMI in 14 the United States and Europe ⁵⁶. Nevertheless, even if such patients receive timely PCI and/or appropriate antiplatelet drugs, the prognosis is still unsatisfying, and a substantial number of STEMI patients still die in-hospital after PCI (about 6%) 3 7 8. Therefore, there is still room for improving the short-term outcomes of these patients on top of a timely PCI. Various studies examined the risk factors of short and long-term mortality of STEMI

20 patients after PCI $9-11$. Guidelines encourage the use of clinical scores such as the thrombolysis in myocardial infarction (TIMI) or The Global Registry of Acute Coronary 22 Events (GRACE) for STEMI to assess early and long-term risk ^{56 12}. Several biomarkers have been reported to confer independent prognostic information after STEMI, including $\mathbf{1}$

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prove the view only only only only only only to the contract of the contract o Cardiac Troponin (cTn), Brain Natriuretic Peptide (BNP), amino-terminal pro-Brain 2 Natriuretic Peptide (NT-proBNP), and D-dimer ¹³⁻¹⁶. Unfortunately, these studies often exclude patients with advanced age, liver or kidney dysfunction, and other comorbidities and complications. The generalizability of those studies is limited, and it is difficult to summarize and reflect the real-world treatment situation comprehensively. Therefore, the objective of this study was to develop a clinical nomogram for predicting in-hospital mortality of patients with STEMI after PCI. The results could provide clinical guidance and improve the outcome of STEMI patients.

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PATIENTS AND METHODS

Study design and patients

ther group of patients' data (namely external data) to verified there group of patients' data (namely external data) to verified in model. The training set patients enrolled from January 2019 to December the diagnostic cri This multicenter, retrospective, observational study included STEMI patients treated with PCI at 39 PCI hospitals in Hebei Province from January 2018 to December 2019. The cohort was divided into a training set and a time-independent validation set. The training set refers to the use of modeled data to verify the predictive effect of the model, while test set is to use another group of patients' data (namely external data) to verify the prediction accuracy of the model. The training set patients enrolled from January 2018 to December 2018 and the testing set patients enrolled from January 2019 to December 2019. All patients met the diagnostic criteria of acute STEMI based on their symptoms and/or ECG, myocardial damage markers and other test results and underwent primary PCI 12 according to the 2017 ESC guidelines for the management of STEMI⁵, namely with persistent chest discomfort or other symptoms suggestive of ischemia and ST-segment elevation in at least two contiguous leads. Patients with non-ST segment myocardial infarction (NSTEMI) or unstable angina or STEMI patients who did not undergo PCI were excluded. Patients who were re-admitted to the hospital for revascularization of non-culprit vessel were also excluded. The treatment strategy after PCI of surviving patients is determined by the doctor in charge in accordance with relevant guidelines. The study was approved by the Ethics Committees of Hebei General Hospital as the lead center and the ethics committee of each participating hospital. The requirement for informed consent was waived by the committee. The study was conducted according to the tenets of the Declaration of Helsinki for Medical Research Involving Human Subjects and Good Clinical Practice.

blood glucose on admission), and left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) after PCI were

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e logistic analyses were included for multivariable logis
truction. Receiver operator characteristic (ROC) curve an
redi extracted from the medical charts. All treatments were according to the current guidelines. **Nomogram construction** Demographics, medical history, vital signs before and after PCI, and auxiliary examinations were evaluated using univariable logistic regression. Variables with P<0.05 in the univariable logistic analyses were included for multivariable logistic analysis and nomogram construction. Receiver operator characteristic (ROC) curve analysis was used to quantify the prediction performance of the nomogram. A calibration curve was used to evaluate the calibration of the nomogram, and its goodness of fit was assessed using the Hosmer-Lemeshow test. Finally, the clinical usefulness of the nomogram was accessed using a decision curve analysis (DCA). **Statistical analysis** Statistical analyses were performed using *R version 4.0.3* (R Foundation for Statistical Computing) with *RStudio* (version 1.3.959; RStudio, Auckland, New Zealand). R packages used in this study were *rms*, *reader*, *tableone*, *pROC*, *ResourceSelection*, and *rmda*. The predictive accuracy of the nomogram was measured using the C-statistic (Bootstrap method, 1000 times). Calibration was evaluated using the Hosmer-Lemeshow statistic. Categorical variables were presented as frequencies with percentages, normally 22 distributed continuous variables as means \pm SD, and other data as medians with interquartile ranges (IQRs). Categorical variables were compared using the chi-square

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RESULTS

Characteristics of the patients

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aracteristics, and information of cardiac procedures, mechanisms are
deters for the nomogram are summarized in Table 1. The
tal were older (69.8±10.2 vs. 60.2±12.6 years, The whole study population consisted of 855 patients diagnosed with STEMI and who underwent PCI, including 396 in the training set (132 (33.3%) dead patients and, 264 (66.7%) survivors) and 459 (91 (19.8%) dead patients, 368 (80.2%) survivors) in the test set (Figure 1). The clinical characteristics, including demographic, medical history, angiographic characteristics, and information of cardiac procedures, medications, and biochemical markers, are summarized in *supplementary file*. The Clinical characteristics selected as predictors for the nomogram are summarized in Table 1. The patients who 10 died in the hospital were older $(69.8\pm10.2 \text{ vs. } 60.2\pm12.6 \text{ years. } P<0.01)$, more likely to be women (32.7% vs. 21.5%, P<0.01), and more had complications like hypertension, AF, 12 and hyperlipidemia. The hospital stay was 8.51 ± 5.11 days in the training set and 8.32 ± 4.70 days in the test set. 13 8.32±4.70 days in the test set. **Nomogram construction** According to the multivariable logistic analysis, 10 variables meet the threshold of P<0.05. Age (OR=1.069, 95% CI=1.048-1.092, P=0.049), BMI (OR=0.55, 95% CI=0.31=0.87, P=0.019), SBP on admission (OR=0.92, 95% CI=0.86-0.97, P=0.009), HGB (OR=0.85, 95% CI=0.73-0.97, P=0.017), random blood glucose on admission (OR=1.53, 95% CI=1.13-2.21, P=0.011), EF after PCI (OR=0.89, 95% CI=0.80-0.97, P=0.015), aspirin (OR=0.001, 95% CI=0.009-0.04, P=0.001), N/L ratio (OR=1.34, 95% CI=1.12-1.69, P=0.004), long lesions (OR=2.00, 95% CI=1.310-3.084, P<0.001), and TIMI flow grade (OR=2.15, 95% CI=1.242-3.900, P=0.008) were independently

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Example 1.1.1.7.0.0. Symbol and the prediction of the C-index was 0.947, indicating that the prediction and practice (Figure 3a). The value of goodness-of-fit was dependention accuracy. The ROC curve is shown in Figure 5% associated with in-hospital mortality after PCI of STEMI (Table 2). The nomogram is shown in Figure 2. The formula for calculating the total point of the nomogram is showed below: *Score=15.5628+0.0320×age-0.2991×BMI-0.0184×SBP-0.0331×HGB+0.3663×random blood glucose on admission-0.1188×LVEF after PCI-4.7705×aspirin+0.0521×N/L ratio- 2.4688×long leisions+5.1018×TIMI flow grade.* **Evaluation of the nomogram** In the training set, the C-index was 0.947, indicating that the prediction model was valuable in clinical practice (Figure 3a). The value of goodness-of-fit was 0.683, indicating a good prediction accuracy. The ROC curve is shown in Figure 4a (AUC=0.947, 95% CI: 0.927-0.967). Figure 5a shows the DCA curve for the training set, indicating that the nomogram had a high overall net benefit in predicting in-hospital mortality after PCI treatment. In the testing set, the C-index was 0.891. Figure 3b shows the calibration curve, and the value of goodness-of-fit was 0.462. The ROC curve is shown in Figure 4b (AUC=0.891,

- 95% CI: 0.844-0.939). The DCA curve is shown in Figure 5b. The results of the testing
	- set indicate that the nomogram had good discrimination and good prediction accuracy
	- which could achieve a good net benefit.
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DISCUSSION

 In this study, a relatively accurate clinical nomogram was constructed, which demonstrated adequate discrimination and calibration power to provide an individualized estimation for the in-hospital mortality in STEMI patients after PCI. For the construction of the nomogram, 10 significant predictors were screened by multivariable logistic

analysis.

e was an independent risk factor of STEMI patients, in a
f STEMI patients and underlining the high-risk profile o
present with more risk factors and comorbidities than you
gher prevalence of renal insufficiency, lower LVEF In our study, age was an independent risk factor of STEMI patients, in accordance with other analyses of STEMI patients and underlining the high-risk profile of elderly patients, 9 as they usually present with more risk factors and comorbidities than younger patients¹⁹ $10²⁰$, such as the higher prevalence of renal insufficiency, lower LVEF. High mortality in the older patients might also result from end-organ dysfunction, competing risks might also offset the benefits from reperfusion, such that successful outcomes are more dependent on overall health issues. Therefore, for older patients, some authors have also 14 questioned the benefit of reperfusion therapy²¹.

 For previous view, obesity increases insulin resistance, worsens plasma lipid profiles, and increases arterial blood pressure, which has adverse effects on patients with CAD through the indirect effects of other risk factors (such as hypertension, impaired glucose tolerance, and hyperinsulinemia) ²². Therefore, obese patients demonstrate greater adverse left ventricle (LV) remodeling and more impaired LV deformation after STEMI compared 20 with those similar infarct characteristics but normal BMI ^{23 24}. Interestingly, some studies have shown the so-called "obesity paradox", whereby obesity is related to better clinical outcomes 22 25-27, consistent with the present study. Fukuoka *et al.* ²⁸ reported that this phenomenon is only observed in elderly patients, not in younger patients, so the influence

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Competing interests

The authors of this work have nothing to disclose.

Ethical standards disclosure

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Authors' contribution

Yudan Wang, Wenjing Wang, Man Gao and Shihang Zheng carried out the studies,

participated in collecting data, and drafted the manuscript. Yudan Wang, Yi Dang and

Xiaoyong Qi performed the statistical analysis and participated in its design. Shengqi Jia,

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Table 2 Variables selected as predictors for the nomogram according to the multivariable logistic analysis

PCI: percutaneous coronary intervention; N/L ratio: neutrophils/lymphocytes ratio; TIMI: thrombolysis in myocardial infarction

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Figure legends

Figure 1. Flowchart illustrating the process of patient selection.

Figure 2. The nomogram for the prediction of in-hospital mortality in patients with acute ST-elevation myocardial infarction after primary PCI. BMI: body mass index; SBP: systolic blood pressure; HGB: hemoglobin; EF: ejection fraction; N/L ratio: neutrophils/lymphocytes ratio.

Figure 3. The calibration curves of the nomogram for the training set (A) and the testing set (B).

Figure 4. The received operating characteristics (ROC) curves of the nomogram for the training set (A) and the testing set (B).

For peer review only **Figure 5.** The decision curve analysis (DCA) for the risk model for the training set (A) and the testing set (B).

Calibration Curve

Apparent
Ideal

 0.5

Bias-corrected

 0.6

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Figure 4. The received operating characteristics (ROC) curves of the nomogram for the training set (A) and the testing set (B).

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Supplement Table 1. Clinical characteristics of the patients used to construct the nomogram

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*Give information separately for cases and controls in case-control studies and, if applicable, for exposed and unexposed groups in cohort and cross-sectional studies. **Note:** An Explanation and Elaboration article discusses each checklist item and gives methodological background and published examples of transparent reporting. The STROBE checklist is best used in conjunction with this article (freely available on the Web sites of PLoS Medicine at http://www.plosmedicine.org/, Annals of Internal Medicine at http://www.annals.org/, and Epidemiology at http://www.epidem.com/). Information on the STROBE Initiative is available at www.strobe-statement.org.

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TRIPOD Checklist: Prediction Model Development and Validation

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*Items relevant only to the development of a prediction model are denoted by D, items relating solely to a validation of a prediction model are denoted by V, and items relating to both are denoted D;V. We recommend using the TRIPOD Checklist in conjunction with the TRIPOD

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