**Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Therapeutic plasma exchange as rescue therapy in severe sepsis and septic shock: retrospective observational single-center study of 23 patients

**Version:** 3  **Date:** 11 November 2013

**Reviewer:** melek tulunay

**Reviewer's report:**

Minor Essential Revision

Background, paragraph 3, the authors refer to 2008 surviving sepsis campaign guidelines (reference no 13). It would be better to refer to the most recent version of the guidelines published in 2013. In the same paragraph the authors refer to table 1. The manuscript is not a review article so Table 1 is not necessary.

Materials and Methods, paragraph 4, the authors should add a reference to the criteria used in assessment of organ dysfunctions (for example the surviving sepsis campaign guidelines)

Results

It would be informative if demographic variables as age, gender, BMI, baseline SOFA score and laboratory tests related to organ dysfunction between survivors and non survivors can be shown in a table.

Results paragraph 2. \( n \) PO2/fiO2 "2" should be in the form of subscript.

Table 2 showing values of a single patient is irrelevant. It should be discarded.

Figures 1 and 2 are confusing, either a detailed figure legend should be added or the figures should be omitted totally.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests