Title: Does the aldosterone: renin ratio predict the efficacy of spironolactone over bendroflumethiazide in hypertension? A Clinical trial protocol for RENALDO (RENin-ALDOsterone) study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor

I am here with submitting the revised version with the formatting changes as suggested.

The changes made to the previous version

1. McMahon added as an author
2. Parthasarathy Hari Krishnan changed as “Hari Krishnan Parthasarathy” Email krishnankala@hotmail.com
3. Title changed to sentence case.
4. Bullet points in the abstract removed
5. Study Design renamed as Methods/Design
6. Primary endpoint changed as “The primary endpoint is the difference in mean 24-hour systolic ambulatory blood pressure recorded at the end of each 12-week treatment period”
7. In secondary endpoints “Mean 24 hour diastolic ambulatory blood pressure” added
8. Details of ethical approval included in the Method/Deign section.
9. Competing interests – “All authors declare that they have no competing interests” added
10. Details of Funding added after acknowledgments “This project is funded by a grant (number BA-01-25) awarded by Chief Scientist Office, Health Department, Scottish Executive. The funding was used by all authors in the collection of data, analysis, interpretation and publication of this manuscript”
11. Acknowledgments- “We especially thank L Peebles for co-ordinating the project. We also thank J Sayer, J Anderson, E Findlay, C Hall and L MacDonald for their invaluable help in data collection”. Added
12. Legends added after references
13. Box 1 renamed as Figure 2
14. Titles removed from figures

Many thanks for considering the protocol for publication. Please do not hesitate to contact me if needed.

Regards

Hari

Dr Hari K Parthasarathy