Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Long-term risk of mortality after acute kidney injury in patients with sepsis: a contemporary analysis

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 23 February 2010

**Reviewer:** Freedom Nkhululeko Gumede

**Reviewer’s report:**

- **Major Compulsory Revisions**

1. Methods: Statistical analysis: Page 7: 2nd paragraph: 3rd sentence:
   Analysis of variance (ANOVA) is mentioned as one of the statistical techniques used in the analysis yet none of the Tables of results report ANOVA output.

2. Methods: Statistical analysis: Page 7: 2nd paragraph: 6th sentence:
   It is mentioned that a 'multiple Cox regression based on" forward elimination of the data" procedure was used. This is seems incorrect.
   Are the authors referring forward stepwise procedure? If so, this sentence should be corrected since forward stepwise procedure does not 'eliminate data' but .

- **Minor Essential Revisions**

1. The notation “Mean ± SD” is used throughout the manuscript (including Tables 1 to 4) and should be changed. The interval resulting from the expression represents a 68% confidence interval for the true mean if the variable under consideration is Normally distributed, but is not of any particular interest, even when the Normality assumption is justified. The convention “Mean (SD)” or “Mean (SEM)” is preferable.

2. Results: Page 10: 1st paragraph: 2nd sentence: What other variables were included in the multivariate model? e.g. was Baseline GFR included?

3. Discussion: Page 11: 1st paragraph: 1st sentence: The authors mention that their study expands on previous results. Can the authors elaborate on the medical or clinical significance of their study results.

4. Table 5. Did the authors consider interaction between the variables in their model? e.g. interactions between age and AKI, gender and AKI?

- **Discretionary Revisions**

1. The figure with survival curves must be properly labelled. The censoring status must be removed from the legend in this figure.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.