Reviewer's report

Title: Circulating levels of lycopene and its possible influence on the oxidative damage and cardiovascular risk in chronic hemodialysis patients

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Reviewer: Belda Dursun

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript “circulating levels of lycopene and its possible influence on the oxidative damage and cardiovascular risk in chronic hemodialysis patients” has been reviewed.

The following points need to be addressed:

1. In the abstract part, aim should be described more clearly. Also the authors mention in the abstract that they analyzed kidney function markers, however, there are no kidney function parameters demonstrated in the manuscript.

2. Throughout the whole manuscript there are a number of misspelt words (for example plasma carotenoids levels on page 1, polycistic kidney on page 7, haemodilalysis on page 12, etc) and misstructured sentences that need to be corrected.

3. The study subjects do not seem to be matched by age and gender. The authors should mention if they compared the groups by statistical methods. Also they should provide more data to describe the groups, including cardiovascular risk markers such as their renal functions, blood pressure levels, body mass index etc.

4. In the reference 39 quoted by the authors, total cholesterol/HDL was suggested to be a better measure of risk for coronary artery disaese, it would be nice to learn if the authors have made any analysis to see any correlations with that parameter itself as well.

5. the title of the article does not reflect the whole idea of the manuscript; because the manuscript does not seem to be prepared to examine the effects of lycopene itself on cardiovascular risk, but a number of caroteoids, tocopherols and oxidative stres markers as well were included, therefore title should be changed appropriately.

6. It would be interesting to see if lycopene came up a predictor of cardiovascular risk in a regression analysis. Also the authors do not mention if there were any correlation between antioxidant enzyme levels and lycopene in HD patients.

7. In the conclusion part of the manuscript, there should be a better definition of the final results obtained from this paper.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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"