Reviewer’s report

Title: Analysis of kidney dysfunction in orthopaedic patients

Version: 3 Date: 21 July 2012

Reviewer: Manish Suneja

Reviewer’s report:

Authors are still reporting AKI (acute kidney injury) as postoperative kidney dysfunction. It needs to be stated how kidney dysfunction was defined based on the AKIN criteria in their methodology. I am not clear as renal dysfunction, renal failure, kidney dysfunction and these terminologies are being used interchangeably. Punctuations and language still need a lot of work.

Some examples of these above mentions concerns:
1) Patients that undergo major orthopaedic procedures are also at high risk for KD due to the potential high volume of blood loss, severe electrolyte disturbances development of perioperative infection or sepsis, and presence of several comorbidities that may impair renal function (i.e. diabetes, heart failure, severe arrhythmias, pulmonary embolism etc):
   Comment: needs a comma after severe electrolyte disturbance

2) In addition, pre- or post-operative KD is a risk factor for postoperative complications, including acute renal failure and cardiovascular disease, leading to increased mortality and morbidity.:
   Comment: I am not clear what authors are trying to say. How can postoperative kidney dysfunction be a risk factor for acute renal failure. Statement does not make sense.

3) The current information on the assessment of postoperative KD in orthopaedic population following major orthopaedic procedures is limited. Our hypothesis is that several factors associated with these procedures such as the increased surgical time the need for blood transfusion and the use of perioperative antibiotics and analgesics may contribute to the development of acute kidney injury.
   Comment: Rephrase the first line and use appropriate punctuations.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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' below