Reviewer’s report

Title: Association of intradialytic hypotension and convective volume in hemodiafiltration: results from a retrospective cohort study.

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Reviewer: Steven Brunelli

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This report by Mora-Bravo, De-La_Cruz et al. is quite intriguing. The data suggest that greater convective clearance volumes—administered as part of hemodialfiltration—are associated with decreased likelihood of intradialytic hypotension. The authors approach was well founded, the analysis well done and the reporting clear. Below are some suggestions for improvement:

1. The authors should comment on why there was a marked increase in intradialytic hypotension comparing group 1 to group 2. The trend thereafter (that between groups 2 and 6) supports the conclusion, but the rise between groups 1 and 2 is contrary. Given that group 1 included patients with 0 convective clearance, were some of them receiving straight hemodialysis? If so, how many? If sufficiently numerous, I would encourage the authors to use the 0 convection subjects as the referent category.

2. How was the determination as to how much convective transport to provide made? Is this according to a standardized protocol?

3. What antihypertensive medications were subjects on? Could greater removal of BP lowering medications through convection be a potential mechanism through which observed associations are mediated.

4. Please provide more detail regarding the “associated clinical events” and “nursing interventions” that were used in constructing the intradialytic hypotension outcome definition.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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