Reviewer’s report

Title: Kidney disease in patients with type 2 diabetes: prevalence and associated variables in a random sample of 2,642 patients from a Mediterranean region (Catalonia, Spain).

Version: 2 Date: 22 May 2012

Reviewer: Giuseppe Pugliese

Reviewer’s report:

Major compulsory revision

Reasons: paper not novel, inadequate analysis of the litterature concerning issue treated.

For the Authors:

The Authors assessed prevalence and correlates of renal impairment without albuminuria in subjects with type 2 diabetes.

Major concerns

Several studies on much larger cohorts have been recently published, yet the Authors did not cite any of them. The most important are:

Thomas MC et al (NEFRON) Diabetes Care 32:1497-1502, 2009
Penno G et al (RIACE) J Hypertens 2011; 29:1802-1809

These previous articles make the findings of this study only confirmatory.

In any case it would be useful to cite these papers to discuss and possibly explain similarities (correlation with female gender) and differences (correlation with HbA1c) observed by the Authors, as compared with data from, Retnakaran, Thomas and Penno.

Minor concerns

Prevalence of renal impairment without albuminuria is not 71% but 64% (14.4% without albuminuria versus 22.9% total)

It is not correct to assess correlation of one condition which may present with or without albuminuria (total RI or RI without albuminuria) with a composite variables including albuminuria. It would be better to assess correlation with retinopathy only.