Reviewer's report

Title: Effects of exercise on kidney function among non-diabetic patients with hypertension and renal disease: randomized controlled trial

Version: 2 Date: 8 April 2012

Reviewer: Malinee Laopaiboon

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There are still some unclear points to be considered as followings

1) The sample size of this paper should be estimated for detecting at least 10% difference of the glomerular filtration rates between intervention and control groups at the end of 16 weeks. However, it is unclear what is the figure in control group as a base line information.

2) 'The sample size is increased from the calculated number, 63, to be 75 for compensation of loss follow up.' These figures present about 20 % expected loss follow up. The authors should provide explanation for this expectation.

2) It is unclear whether the treatment allocation list is concealed.

3) It is unclear who will assess all outcomes, especially the primary outcomes, whether they will be blinded the treatment.

4) We usually use our eyes to justify whether baseline characteristics are balance between treatment and control groups. We do not use any statistical test for this situation because the sample size of any trial is estimated for testing effect of intervention. Therefore I do not agree with the analysis for double check whether the two group baselines are comparable.

5) The authors should specify which outcomes will be analysed by t test and chi-square test.

It would be better information to use confidence interval for estimating treatment effects.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.