Reviewer's report

**Title:** Early utilization of hypertonic peritoneal dialysate and subsequent risks of non-traumatic amputation among peritoneal dialysis patients: A nationwide retrospective longitudinal study

**Version:** 2 **Date:** 16 March 2013

**Reviewer:** Frances Game

**Reviewer's report:**

This is a well designed, well executed study of the association of the use of hypertonic peritoneal dialysate and subsequent limb amputation.

I have only one question and one comment.

The question relates to the definition of amputation. I assume that the data relate to major, that is above ankle amputations. Minor amputations are limb sparing whereas a major amputation is done when the limb cannot be spared. I assume that the data relate to major amputations as the references are to studies that looked at major amputations, but it was not made clear.

My only other point is that the authors have demonstrated an association, not causation. Perhaps the conclusion of the abstract is overstating the case a little.

**Level of interest:** An article of outstanding merit and interest 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