Reviewer's report

Title: Age dependent parathormone level and different CKD-MBD treatment practice of dialysed patients in Hungary - results from nationwide clinical audit

Version: 1 Date: 28 January 2013

Reviewer: Bjorn Meijers

Reviewer's report:

This is a cross-sectional observational study on parathormone levels and CKD-MBD practice patterns in Hungary, in the period 12-2010 to 03-2011. The main focus of the article is to study the effect of age as modifier for CKD-MBD. 5008 dialyzed patients were included for analysis.

Major compulsory comments
What type of assays for iPTH have been used during the study period. If there are several different assays, please elaborate on the effects this may have had on study results.

Patients were stratified in three age groups (I <65; II 65-80; III > 80 years of age). Why were these cut-offs chosen? Please repeat the analysis with ten year strata (< 50, 50-60, 60-70, 70-80 and >80). Does this affect the relationship between age and PTH?

One of the main findings of the study is that PTH on average is lower in elderly patients. Please add a section in the discussion elaborating on potential explanations for this finding.

What are the main findings of ref 14? Please confirm that the current manuscript is not a translation of ref 14.

Minor compulsory comments
The 2 final sentences read as: the higher the age, the lower the DM prevalence. I think you meant: DM = lower PTH levels.
P5, line 7: hypertonia needs to be changed in hypertension
P5, line 14: non-sentence: …the mean value of PTH we give median value… Please rephrase.
Ref 10. Replace KIDIGO with KDIGO

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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'