Reviewer's report

Title: Perceptions and Use of the National Kidney Foundation KDOQI Guidelines: A Survey of U.S. Renal Healthcare Providers

Version: 1 Date: 16 May 2013

Reviewer: Josée Bouchard

Reviewer's report:

Dr Estrella and colleagues have performed a survey on barriers to the use of KDOQI guidelines. Although the subject is interesting and the manuscript well-written, the questions asked in the survey are relatively basic and more importantly, only addressed to users of the NKF website which represents a significant bias. In addition, the response rate is low and has not been acknowledged by the authors.

Major Revisions

Although the subject is interesting, the questions asked in the survey are relatively basic.

More importantly, the survey is only addressed to users of the NKF website which represents a significant bias. The authors could try to solicit renal healthcare providers and allied health professionals from their different centers to increase the number of respondents.

In addition, the response rate is low which has not been acknowledged by the authors. The authors could solicit respondents at least once more and/or see the evolution of barriers over time as this survey was conducted a few years ago.

The authors have merged responses from physicians and nurse practitioners which may vary significantly. We suggest that the authors present these results separately.

In addition, responses from other subspecialties may be of high interest to improve care in patients with CKD and should be included in this manuscript.

Minor Revisions

The denominators for the percentages included in the tables are not clear.

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.