Author's response to reviews

Title: The use of absolute values improves performance of estimation formulae: A retrospective cross sectional study.

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Author's response to reviews: see over
To the editor:

First of all thanks for considering our article for publication.

We are also thankful for the comments from the reviewers which we have tried to address as accurate as possible.

Reviewer: Frank van der Sande

The reviewer suggested looking at data in the group of patients who were under and overweight, in order to do so we changed table 2 by removing results from the previous study as comparison to the new results but we added information regarding bias, precision, IQR, P10 and P30 for the group of patients with BSA less than 1.60 and more than 1.80. This analysis showed that CKD-EPI performed best in the group of patients with BSA > 1.80 m². These results are commented in page 11, under the conclusions in the abstract as well as under the discussion in the main manuscript. (Page 13)

With regards to the use of these formulae in patients with CKD IV and V, a relevant comment is made in page 6 and 10 where the population group is described.

We have not yet performed a prospective analysis with this new formula and this is commented in page 15.

Reviewer: Sandra Silveiro

1. The inclusion and exclusion criteria are now included in page 6.
2. Patient characteristics: we corrected the mistake as the real range was 111-156 (Page 10)
3. We have now included Bland Altman analysis for both formula, in the text the results are commented in page 9, 11 and 14. Figure 1 and 2
4. We have now analysed the raw data by age ranges, this is shown in a new table (Table 5) commented in the text in page 13 and page 14. Table 5

Reviewer: Richard Chudleigh

We have tried to explain a little bit better the results shown in the tables in page 12 as well as under the discussion.

We analysed bias, precision and accuracy of the raw data for patients with different levels of BSA, this is shown in table 2 and commented in page 10 and 13.

In page 10 we have provided more data regarding the GFR and BMI range of the study subjects

We hope that you will find the changes made acceptable, otherwise let us know so we have the opportunity to revise our analysis of data and manuscript again.

Best Regards: Belén Redal-Baigorri in behalf of all three authors.