Reviewer’s report

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

Version: 3 Date: 9 September 2013

Reviewer: Richard Chudleigh

Reviewer’s report:

Overall this is a good manuscript with an important message. The study is well conducted and the results support the conclusions. However, the results are unclear to the non specialist reader and hidden in the tables. Major revisions. The results section needs a more detailed summary of the results which are currently lost in tables 3 & 4. There needs to be more detailed discussion about the bias, precision and accuracy of the non corrected eGFR values compared to those which are corrected for BSA. This should be done in a table similar to table 2 at the different levels of BSA. There needs to be more information on the range of GFR and BMI of the study subjects included in table 1.

Otherwise, the introduction, methods and discussion are satisfactory.

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.