Reviewer’s report

Title: Analysis of Factors Predicting Mortality of New Patients Commencing Dialysis Therapy in a Single Year after 10 Years Follow-Up

Version: 4 Date: 8 November 2013

Reviewer: Laura Plantinga

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have clarified many issues and the paper is improved. However, I still have a few remaining issues.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. There are still several sentence fragments, problems with grammar (e.g., "data" is a plural noun), and misspellings. Please double-check throughout.

2. In the limitations: the issue is not that the study is cross-sectional (in fact it is longitudinal), but that the only risk factor data are from baseline. Since many (most) of these factors change over time, the association may weaken with time.

3. The abstract still states that the aggressive management of cardiovascular risk factors accounts for the differences in this updated analysis. The data do not support this, so this must be clearly stated as a speculation.

4. The follow-up time is still confusing. The mean of 11.9 years stated in the abstract is not possible with a 10-year study. In the paper it becomes clear that the authors meant the time from first encounter with nephrology. However, this follow-up is irrelevant to the study, since survival time presumably started at dialysis initiation (this is when the baseline risk factors were measured). Please confirm that survival time started at dialysis and modify the study follow-up time in the paper accordingly.

5. Cox regression is not the same as Cox proportional hazards modeling. I assume the authors have done the latter since they present results for proportional hazards assumptions. Please modify the paper accordingly.

Discretionary Revisions

1. Table 3: What are the adjusters in the multivariable model? If everything else in the table, add this to a footnote.

2. Also, exp(beta) is better labeled as a hazard ratio, which is more relatable to the reader.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
**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