Reviewer’s report

Title: Acute kidney injury among adult patients admitted with sepsis in a low income country: Clinical pattern and short term outcomes.

Version: 3 Date: 1 September 2014

Reviewer: Bernard Jaar

Reviewer’s report:

Dear Dr. Bagasha and colleagues,

I thank you very much for revising your manuscript and taking into account the comments of the reviewers. Your manuscript is of interest to the Editorial Board of BMC Nephrology. We agree with the authors that the data provided in this manuscript is of importance since there is a dearth of information on AKI in resource-limited settings. However, before the manuscript can be accepted for publication, I would encourage the authors to address the following issues:

1- Title: please change the title to the following:
Acute Kidney Injury among Adult Patients with Sepsis in a Low-Income Country: Clinical Pattern and Short-Term Outcomes.

2- Key Words: please add “AKIN”

3- References: references should be numbered in the order they are cited in the manuscript. For example, in the introduction, the authors jump from reference 3 to reference 18.

4- There is a typo on page 4, first line: “The hospital is in a resource-limited setting …”.

5- The authors stated that “Written informed consent was obtained from all study participants”. What about patients too sick to give consent. Was consent obtained from the next of kin? Please clarify.

6- Similarly, the authors stated that “We interviewed participants using a structured questionnaire …”. Were there any patients with change in mental status, too sick, to be interviewed? Please clarify.

7- There is a typo on page 5, third line of the first paragraph, the word “using” is written twice.

8- Under statistical analysis: please clarify which software was used to conduct the analyses. Consider conducting multivariable analyses using the most important variables such as age, gender, presence of HIV and diabetes. I understand the sample size is small but it would be good to report some “independent” variables associated with the outcomes.

9- On page 6, under demographics, in the first sentence, please report how many patients were screened as you have already reported in figure 1.
10- In Table 1, please provide how many patients had a history of diabetes and hypertension. Also, please provide the distribution of AKIN stages. How many patients had AKIN stage 1, stage 2 and stage 3. This information could be useful in table 1.

11- On page 6, under results in the text, please provide the odds ratio before the confidence intervals.

12- On page 7, first paragraph, the following sentence should be in the discussion section: “Access to ICU and dialysis was not possible because ….
Space was not available because of the limited number of beds.”

13- On page 7, last paragraph, when referring to other authors’ work, no need to state the year. Please delete 1990 and 2010 in this paragraph.

Thank you again for submitting your interesting work to BMC Nephrology and we look forward to a revised version of your manuscript in the coming weeks.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.