Author's response to reviews

Title: Recovery of Renal Function in Dialysis Patients

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PDF covering letter
Dear Editor:

Re: Recovery of Renal Function in Dialysis Patients

I note with great pleasure the decision and the comments made by the reviewer regarding the manuscript entitled “Recovery of Renal Function in Dialysis Patients”. All the authors concur with me that the suggestions made by the reviewer will only enhance the quality of the manuscript. We have made all the amendments and the changes are highlighted in blue in the text of the manuscript and they are as follows.

1. Page 8, result section, line # 9, we have added the percentage as suggested by the reviewer. “Two of the 8 patients (25%) had HIV disease……”

2. Page 9, last line, we have added the sentence ”None of the HIV infected patients were on any kind of anti-retroviral therapy”. As none of our patients with HIV, were treated with HAART, which can be associated with renal recovery.

3. As suggested by Dr. Cohen, we included a discussion part detailing the possibility of HIV related renal failure and have also included the reference cited by dr. Cohen. However we made it clear that none of our patients were treated with HAART. The new insertion is as follows. “Although, FSGS secondary to HIVAN may be considered to be reversible, the evidence for such recovery seems to be anecdotal and is associated with the use of Highly Active Anti Retroviral Therapy (HAART). None of our patients were on any kind of anti retroviral therapy (13)”. 

4. In keeping with the above discussion in the following sentence, we inserted the words “most of” to accommodate the possibility recovery of renal function in HIV related kidney failure.

5. Finally, on page 14, in conclusion section we added as suggested the following sentence. “This is particularly true among patients with HIV disease who seem to have more likelihood of recovering renal functions especially if they are treated with HAART”.

6. We have also included the reference suggested by the reviewer, which as follows.
Kirchner JT. Resolution of renal failure after initiation of HAART: 3 cases and a discussion of the literature. AIDS Read. 12(3): 103-5, 110-2. 2002

7. We agree with the reviewer that the patient with GFR of 9 ml/min, remained unchanged, meant that actually he did not regain his renal function. We have documented this on page 13, paragraph 1 “Although he did not regain his renal function, he remained off-dialysis for only 9 months but enjoyed his dialysis-free life during these 9 months”.

I hope the manuscript now meets the expectations of the reviewers and is in an acceptable format for publication. I would like to thank the reviewer for her time in reviewing the manuscript. I would be very happy to answer any query or make necessary revision if needed.

Sincerely,

Mahendra Agraharkar, MD FACP