Reviewer’s report

Title: Lower estimated glomerular filtration rates in patients on long term lithium; a comparative study and a meta-analysis of literature

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Reviewer: Claudius Diez

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript is well written and addresses an important issue in lithium therapy for patients with bipolar disorder.

I have some minor comments:

1. Meta-analysis results were presented as a forest plot. Publication bias as a potential source of bias was not addressed and should be considered in the revision.

2. The matching procedure including tightness of fit is not well described. How many patients were potential control patients?

3. Estimated GFR is one indicator of CKD. Unfortunately microalbuminuria as an early sign of renal dysfunction was not measured. The authors critically addressed simple classification of patients based on eGFR values.

4. Presentation of mean eGFR with SD may be somewhat misleading. Median values with interquartile range or with a 95% CI would reveal a more realistic clinical picture of patient conditions.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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:

None.