Dear editors,

Thank you for your e-mail, concerning our manuscript “Forced Diuresis With Matched Hydration in Reducing Acute Kidney Injury During Transcatheater Aortic Valve Implantation (REDUCE–AKI): study protocol for a randomized controlled trial”

We were pleased to learn of your potential interest in our work for publication in your Journal. Please find enclosed our revised manuscript.

We are grateful for the reviewer’s thorough critique of the manuscript and believe that by addressing their comments the paper has improved. Attached is a
point-by-point response to their comments and a description of the corresponding changes that were made in the manuscript.

There is no conflict of interest directly related to this work.

Sincerely yours,

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Editorial requests:

1. Please ensure the title conforms to journal style for study protocol articles

Response: We addressed this issue and changed the title - “Forced Diuresis With Matched Hydration in Reducing Acute Kidney Injury During Trancatheter Aortic Valve Implantation (REDUCE–AKI): study protocol for a randomized sham controlled trial”

2. Please remove the conclusions from your Abstract, and include a Methods/Discussion section. Your trial registration number should come after this.

Response: We have addressed this issue and changed the abstract accordingly—page 2.

3. Please include the names of all ethical bodies that approved your study in the various centers involved. If you do not wish to list them all in the methods section, please include the list as an additional file and refer to this in the methods section.
Response: We have added the full description of the ethical committee on page 11. Since this is a single center study there is a single Ethics (Helsinki) Committee approval.

4. Please move your Trial Status from your Title Page to below your Discussion.

Response: We have addressed this issue and made the appropriate change – page 2.

5. Please include a list of abbreviations used in the manuscript and their meanings, below your Trial Status.

Response: We have addressed this issue and made the appropriate change – page 3.

6. Please move your Conflicts of Interests below your list of abbreviations.

Response: We have addressed this issue and made the appropriate change – page 3.

7. Please include an Authors Contributions section after your Conflicts of Interest. This section should demonstrate that each author meets all three of the following criteria to qualify for authorship (each author should be mentioned individually):

Response: We have added an author contribution section on page 3.

8. Please include an acknowledgement section at the end of the manuscript before the reference list. Please acknowledge anyone who contributed towards the study by making substantial contributions to conception, design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data, or who was involved in drafting the manuscript or revising it critically for important intellectual content, but who does not meet the criteria for authorship. Please also include the source(s) of funding for all authors. Authors should obtain permission to acknowledge from all those mentioned in the Acknowledgements. Please move the funding information on your Title Page to this section.
Response: We have addressed this issue and made the appropriate change – page 16.

9. Please include an additional file legend, after your figure legend.

Response: We’ve added a file legend on page 17.

REVIEWER 1

The manuscript about the protocol of REDUCE-AKI is designed intentionally to solve the problem of relative high incidence of acute kidney injury (AKI) in the patients undergoing Trans-aortic Valve implantation (TAVI). However, there are several concerns of us before its publication to be considered.

First, it is confusing in the sample size determination part that what the expected reduction rate will be: 50% (line 4), or 70% (line 14)? Besides, we are looking forward to the calculation formula listed here.

Response: Prior studies have shown up to a 70% reduction in AKI. We have chosen a more modest treatment effect (50%). We updated the text and added the calculation formula accordingly on page 13.

Second, we are concerned with the style inconsistency throughout the manuscript before its consideration to be published. We don’t think the mixed use of itemization in the context is a very good idea; especially all of them are not even in the same fashion. For the unification of style and readers’ convenience, the authors should consider the possibility of put all these itemized parts, if they have to be like that, in different tables.

Response: We’ve updated the article and tables style accordingly, we have added a new figure – “study flow chart” for the readers’ convenience (page 5-13 and figure 2).

Some small issues in data presentation include: the table 2 appearing earlier in the context than table 1, too many paragraphs in the discussion with some of them with only one sentence, some sentences without correct punctuation.
Response: We've addressed this issue by adding a reference to table 1 in the background section and by changing the tables numbering.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.
Declaration of competing interests:
I don't have any conflict of interests related to this manuscript.