Reviewer's report

Title: Improvised peritoneal dialysis in an 18 month child with severe malnutrition (kwashiorkor) and acute kidney injury: a case report

Version: 2 Date: 8 March 2013

Reviewer: Marva Moxey-Mims

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: New associations or variations in disease processes

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is the case report ethical?: Yes

Is there any missing information that you think must be added before publication?: No

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: Yes

Does the case report have explanatory value?: Yes

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: No

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: Yes

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

General Comments:
This is a report of using available resources in an under-resourced area to provide peritoneal dialysis for a child with acute kidney injury. The authors try to make a case that doing this is a child with kwashiorkor is what makes it unique, but I think that their resourcefulness is the unique aspect of this case. The link between kwashiorkor in and of itself, and the subsequent development of acute kidney injury is tenuous.

Suggested edits:
Case presentation - paragraph 1 - indicate which standardized growth charts were used to determine the child's length, weight and z score.
- paragraph 2 - At the end of the sentence about inserting the PD catheter, Figure 2 should be referenced in parentheses. The description of the PD fluid that was made should reference Figure 3, although I'm not sure that this figure is needed.
- paragraph 2, last sentence - indicate the volume of urine passed on the sixth day

Discussion - paragraph 1 - suggest "Management of children with severe malnutrition is provided in phases, with the first being stabilization, with emphasis on....."
- paragraph 2, delete "with various factors contributing" at the end of the paragraph.
- paragraph 3, correct intravenous fluid reference to figure 3

I would also like to make the authors aware of the Saving Young Lives program for providing peritoneal dialysis for acute kidney injury. One of the initial sites was in Moshi, Tanzania (references attached).

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests