Reviewer's report

Title: Contrast associated acute kidney injury by RIFLE criteria and outcome in critically ill patients of medical and surgical intensive care units

Version: 3 Date: 12 August 2014

Reviewer: Rebecca Kalman

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions - none
Minor Essential revisions - none
Discretionary revisions

1. It would be interesting to see the data for CT v MRI patients. Gadolinium induced AKI, especially in patients with low baseline Cr such as the population in this study, is not as well characterized robust as AKI induced by the radiocontrast agents used for CT.

2. It would be of interest to differentiate outcomes of CA-AKI patients in relation to all cause AKI patients which may be difficult given the retrospective nature of the study. The association of AKI with worse outcome in the ICU has been characterized. However, if contrast induced AKI is associated with worse outcome than AKI of other causes, this may impact clinical decision making.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests