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: 21 September 2014

Reviewer: Karim Fikry

Reviewer's report:

The authors have put a lot of effort in writing this manuscript which is a retrospective study evaluating the incidence and outcomes of contrast-associated acute kidney injury in ICU patients.

Overall, I believe this study was well designed to address an interesting topic which is contrast-induced and contrast-associated acute kidney injury. The aim of the study was well defined at the beginning with appropriate methodology and sound statistics to address the question.

Please find your manuscript with tracked changes and comments for my modest corrections and questions that I believe would come up in the readers' minds.

Major Compulsory Revisions:
- Please revise your conclusion, especially the last sentence: "Therefore, it is basic to apply preventive measurements thoroughly,..." I find this a major mistake in the conclusion since 1) this is not the main aim of the study and 2) your data shows that hydration and N-AC didn't show any significant difference in outcomes.

Minor Essential Revisions:
- Please review the attached manuscript with tracked changes for minor spelling and grammatical errors.
- In Methods, Data Collection, 3rd paragraph: How were the BUN, SCr, and GFR values measured immediately prior to administration of CM and 24, 48 and 72 hours and in the ICU? Since this is a retrospective study, I find it hard to believe these timings for all patients. Is this the standard of care to draw all these labs in any patient receiving CM at these exact hours, or are these approximate times?
- In Results, #4 Clinical Outcomes after CM administration: What is overall mortality? How was defined? Was there a time period to define overall mortality? 30 days for example post CM? or was it any mortality until this manuscript was written, even if it was unrelated to CM administration? This may skew your data
- Please see that attached manuscript for minor revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance 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 declare that I have no competing interests