Reviewer's report

Title: Urine neutrophil gelatinase-associated lipocalin: a diagnostic and prognostic marker for acute kidney injury (AKI) in hospitalized cirrhotic patients with AKI-prone conditions.

Version: Date: 5 August 2015

Reviewer: Sakkarin Chirapongsathorn

Reviewer's report:

The authors present results of an optimal cut-off level of uNGAL to explore the diagnosing acute kidney injury and the association of 30- day liver-related mortality. This is a well-written and organized paper. As the authors note, there are the small number of AKI cirrhotic patients. The level of evidence from this study may be affected by the small number of AKI cirrhosis. However, this study came from the tertiary hospital center in Thailand and I presume all of the subjects are Asian ethnicity that would be different from the previous study by the Barcelona group[1] and Columbia university group[2].

Detailed Comments:

1. Abstracts & Introduction: good to go
2. Methods/ Data Abstraction: No concern
3. Results/ baseline characteristics of patients: Except infection, How many patients in other AKI-prone conditions?
4. Table 1: I see a wide standard deviation of laboratory value such as AST and ALT. It means that some patients had very large values for these variables. So it may be more appropriate to use median and IQR instead.
5. Discussion: Please provide which variables or factors used for adjusting in a multivariate logistic regression model.

Major Compulsory Revisions: none

Minor essential revisions: Please consider providing information on the number of patients in each group of the AKI-prone conditions.

Discretionary Revisions: For laboratory values, please consider using median and IQR instead.

Reference:


Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.