Reviewer's report

Title: Outcomes of sustained low efficiency dialysis versus continuous renal replacement therapy in critically ill adults with acute kidney injury: A cohort study

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Reviewer: carlo basile

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The topic is hot. However, the present retrospective observational studies cannot add any significant contribution to the controversy.

As acknowledged by the authors, only randomized controlled trials can solve the problem.

The paper suffers of many limitations, the most important is, quoting the authors: "it is possible that patients with more severe illness were treated with CRRT preferentially over SLED. This is suggested by the slightly higher SOFA scores and the higher frequency of mechanical ventilation in the CRRT group, which may bias clinical outcomes in favour of SLED". I would add two points: 1. also the mean Charlson index was higher at the baseline in the CRRT group; 2. the above three parameters were statistically significant.

The second very important point is that the sample size is too small to definitively evaluate whether SLED is non-inferior to CRRT.

A minor point is that it is never clarified whether SLED was prescribed on a daily basis.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

No competing interests exist in relation to the present paper