Reviewer’s report

Title: Urine Neutrophil Gelatinase-associated Lipocalin to Predict Renal Response after Induction Therapy in Active Lupus Nephritis

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Reviewer: Khawla Kammoun

Reviewer’s report:

This paper is about prediction value of urine NGAL in renal response after induction therapy in active lupus nephritis. It included 75 patients with biopsy proven lupus nephritis (LN) with predominantly class III or IV LN (isolated or associated to class V LN). 7 patients had isolated class V LN.

In this study inclusion there is heterogeneity in inflammatory lesions because of inclusion of patients with isolated class V LN. We suggest to exclude these 7 patients from analysis in order to have an homogeneous group in regard of active glomarular and interstitial lesions and to have more significant conclusions. The authors report in the text that there was a trend toward higher levels of aseline GFR among LN with renal response than those without response: but the p value in very higher than 0.05. We suggest that there was no difference in GFR between the 3 groups.

The authors found no correlation between urine NGAL and SLEDAI score. We suggest to study the correlation of urinary NGAL and isolated tubulointertitial activity and chronicity scores and glomerular activity and chronicity score and glomerular scores.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

No

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.
Quality of written English

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Needs some language corrections before being published

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