Reviewer’s report

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

Version: 0 Date: 28 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Gaetano La Manna

Reviewer’s report:

Please consider the following points we have identified:

1. According to Guidelines, the objective should not be included among abstract sections. It should be included in another section.

2. As per our guidelines, please change "Materials and methods" section title with "Methods".

3. Conclusion session is required by the Editor for a research article. It should clearly state the main conclusions and provide an explanation of the importance and relevance of the reported study.

4. As you can read from the instructions for Authors: "Manuscripts reporting studies involving human participants, human data or human tissue must include the name of the ethics committee that approved the study and the committee's reference number if appropriate".

5. In the abstract (line 39-40) please change "cuttoff" with "cut-off".

6. Table 1: all the abbreviations should be preceded by the complete words the first time they are reported in the text. Please explain the meaning of acronym "ISN/RPS class".

7. Table 1 b caption: please clearly write that the parameter valuated among the three groups of patients is "urine NGAL to 24 urine creatinine ratio".

8. Discussion session page 8 lines 21-22: please add reference to this sentence.

9. In section "Performance of urine NGAL in predicting renal response", page 8 line 7, you wrote: "...in differentiating complete and partial response groups THE from nonresponse group". Please remove "THE" from the sentence, it isn't necessary.

10. Page 7 lines 11-12: see note 9. Please remove "DID" from the sentence, it isn't necessary.

11. Page 9 line 1: Please remove comma from the sentence, it isn't necessary.
12. Page 11 line 6: you wrote "The findings can be explained by the fact that urine CREATININE in acute kidney disease is a dynamic process affected by glomerular filtration and tubular secretion...". Please add the word "excretion" after creatinine.

13. Could the different numbers of patients for each subgroup influence the results?

14. Shouldn't BMI be more significant than body weight?

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

Yes

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

Yes

**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.

I recommend additional statistical review

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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