Reviewer’s report

Title: Therapeutic plasma exchange in a tertiary care center: 185 patients undergoing 912 treatments - a one-year retrospective analysis

Version: 0 Date: 20 Jul 2017

Reviewer: Sandawana Majoni

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript presents an analysis of an important treatment and has reviewed clinically critical areas on the usage of therapeutic plasma exchange relevant to clinical practice. Although the design is retrospective, the authors have presented an adequate analysis of the available data to come up with clinically significant recommendations. However, the authors need to address the following:

1. Results section:
   1.1. They mentioned in the background that Guillain-Barre Syndrome is one of the recommended indications for plasma exchange but in their results section under neurological disease((line 11 and 12), only multiple sclerosis and acute disseminated encephalitis were listed. Does this mean that they did not have any cases of Guillain-Barre syndrome in their data?
   1.2. They have presented results of most of their comparisons which they presented as significant with confidence intervals but it will provide more robust information for the general nephrologist and others if they also include p-values. Can they also indicate if the confidence intervals were 95% or other?
   1.3. Table 1 needs to be clearer. It is not clear whether the 'patient group' represent the variables down the column or the variables across the rows. If this represented variables down the column, it does not make any sense. I would recommend they change the label in this to make it clearer.
   1.4. Their definition of serious adverse event needs to be clearer. They have said severe is "clinically unstable due to adverse event, termination of procedure required". Do they mean that severe was defined by both terms? If so, in table 2 they have 6 serious adverse events which conflicts with their statement in the adverse events section where they mentioned that there were 2 out of 185 serious adverse events leading to treatment stoppage.

2. Discussion
   2.1. I would recommend that they need to include a detailed critique of the limitations of the study in the discussion section rather than the conclusions section as I think the limitations are crucial in this study although the results have got significant implications for clinical practice.
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?  
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Yes

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I am able to assess the statistics

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