Reviewer’s report

Title: Albuminuria, serum creatinine, and estimated glomerular filtration rate as predictors of cardio-renal outcomes in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus and kidney disease: a systematic literature review

Version: 0 Date: 12 Jul 2017

Reviewer: Arnaud Kaze Djou

Reviewer’s report:

The authors conducted a systematic review to assess the role of albuminuria, serum creatinine, eGFR, and uric acid in the prediction of kidney disease progression among patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus. The authors found that the methods used to assess the biomarkers and the outcomes in the included studies were highly heterogenous, which preclude the generalizability of their findings.

Consistent to previous reports, this review's findings support the utility of albuminuria as a good predictor of renal function decline.

Another conclusion is that biomarker measurements need to be harmonized across studies to better assess the significance of these biomarkers. The authors are to be commended for the choice of a complex topic.

I have a few comments.

- In my opinion, the title of this study is not an accurate representation of what was done. The title seems to imply that the outcome of interest in the paper was limited to renal function decline. In reality, the authors assessed several distinct outcomes including kidney disease progression, non-fatal cardiovascular events, and all-cause mortality.

- The study outcomes should be clearly defined in the methods.

- The methods mentioned that included longitudinal studies. Were all the retrospective studies longitudinal by design? If not, I would avoid using the word "longitudinal".

- I believe the article would benefit from further English language editing.

- The structure and the flow of the discussion could be improved.

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.

Unable to assess

**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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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