**Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Can increased vigilance for chronic kidney disease in hospitalised patients decrease late referral and improve dialysis-free survival?

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 04 Jan 2018

**Reviewer:** Domenico Santoro

**Reviewer's report:**

This is a prospective observational study regarding the role of early nephrological referral. The conclusion underlines the important role of nephrological follow-up for patients with eGFR<45 ml/min.

In the background the authors should include that also for mineral bone disorders it is required a medical interventions or therapy adjustments. You can add the following citation: Gallieni M, et al Management of CKD-MBD in non-dialysis patients under regular nephrology care: a prospective multicenter study. J Nephrol. 2016 Feb;29(1):71-8.

Moreover when it is reported the discontinuation of nephrotoxic drugs, it is important to the following paper: Ingrasciotta Y. Association of individual non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and chronic kidney disease: a population-based case control study. PLoS One. 2015 Apr 16;10(4)

Were the patients hospitalized for an acute or programmed intervention especially in thoracic, vascular and cardiac surgery, as well as cardiology, or infectious units.? Indeed in such situations the cause of reduced eGFR could be related to an acute rather than chronic kidney disease.

How many times the patients in the group consistently <45 had a check of serum creatinine?

question mark in Table 1. Should it be deleted?
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.
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.
I am able to assess the statistics

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

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:
1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?
4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?
5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?
6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?
If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal