Reviewer’s report

Title: Identification of young adults at risk of an accelerated loss of kidney function in an area affected by Mesoamerican nephropathy

Version: 0 Date: 03 Nov 2018

Reviewer: Carlo Alfieri

Reviewer's report:

The aim of this interesting paper entitled "Identification of young adults at risk of accelerated kidney function loss in an area affected by Mesoamerican nephropathy" is to investigate if repeated local creatinine tests combined with baseline information (age, season, occupation), and urinary measurements of uNGAL and urinary albumin-creatinine ratio (UACR) can identify the subgroup of those at risk of future rapid decline of kidney function.

The paper is written in a correct English, statistical analyses are well performed and described.

I propose for this paper: Major revisions.

- First of all, authors should increase the appeal of this paper. In the end the fact that more than one (and especially late, more near to the end of follow up time) measurements of renal function, are able to indicate the risk of rapid decline of kidney function. It is not a novelty! My first question is: did the authors evaluate also the influence of urinary protein excretion in the ROC curves. It is certainly more impacting than NGAL.

- In addition: I would like to know, first if GFR measured (not estimated) is comparable in all the cohort and in the subroups, with the GFR estimated. In addition, ROC curves can be more informative with GFR measured.

- What about therapies? Are we sure that during follow up nobody experienced rapid decline of kidney function for other causes (urologic, immunologic, diabetes etc??) All these information must be presented in the paper.

- There was a difference in the results according to gender appartenence?

Without these improvements in my opinion the article is not suitable for publication.

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

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