**Reviewer’s report**

**Title:** Rapid decline of renal function in patients with type 2 diabetes with heavy proteinuria: A Report of Three Cases

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 21 Oct 2018

**Reviewer:** Paul Epstein

**Reviewer's report:**

The manuscript concludes that T2D patients with severe proteinuria are at risk of very rapid decline in GFR, possibly related to herbal supplements. The conclusions are from 3 presented cases, all of which are consistent with their conclusions. No control cases are part of the study. The patient findings are clear, the meaning is not. Two of three cases had infections and uncontrolled glycemia, both are potential contributors to the outcome. If possible information on the herbal supplements used by the patients should be added and could be valuable. It would also be useful if the authors indicated whether most other T2D cases in their care with such severe proteinuria had stable renal function. The authors are not trying to make a scientific point, rather they are giving a warning to closely watch T2D patients with nephrotic levels of urine protein for sudden renal decline.

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

Unable to assess

**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.

No

**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

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