Reviewer’s report

Title: Evaluating the effect of garlic extract on serum inflammatory markers of peritoneal dialysis patients: A randomized double-blind clinical trial study

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Reviewer: Renzo Bonofiglio

Reviewer's report:

The work by Zare et al. investigate the effectiveness of garlic extract in lowering inflammatory markers in peritoneal dialysis (PD) patients. The work could warrant publication in 'BMC Nephrology' if the following concerns are addressed.

Concerns:

- Define the meaning of all acronyms used in the main text.

- In the section Biochemical assay, why the authors talk about serum aliquots? They state that the samples were collected into standard plain and EDTA vacutainer tubes; so they should talk about plasma aliquots.

- The materials section concerning the blood samples used for the various assays performed should be more detailed. Is it possible that for all the biochemical parameters determined the venous blood samples were collected only in EDTA vacutainer tubes?

- The authors described that garlic extract exerts its beneficial effects in PD patients attenuating the inflammatory state. At the same time, in this the current study witnessed no significant effect of garlic on lipid profile markers. As the increase of lipid profile represents a traditional and critical risk factor of CVD in patients with chronic kidney disease, the authors should discuss better about their opposite outcome.

- Please characterize the inflammatory state using more markers (IL-1, TNF-α…) in ELISA assay.

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?
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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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