Reviewer's report

Title: Serum klotho: a potential predictor of cerebrovascular disease in hemodialysis patients

Version: 0 Date: 25 Sep 2018

Reviewer: charat thongprayoon

Reviewer's report:

1. Is this a prospective study? What is the study period? Did you screen all hemodialysis patients at the study hospital? What is the timeframe between serum klotho measurement and CT or MRI test? Was it before or after klotho measurement? Were MRI or CT done for the study purpose or other purposes?

2. "A total of 185 patients were screened, and 88 patients consented to participate in our study and completed all questionnaires, laboratory tests and had head CT or MRI scan records" What was the reason of excluding 97 patients?

3. What was the definition of cerebrovascular disease? Did it include any ischemic, hemorrhagic or intracranial bleeding? How was it ascertained and by who? I think that the investigators excluded patients without CT or MRI. Can these patients without CT or MRI be considered not having cerebrovascular disease?

4. What regression model did you perform to assess the association between klotho and cerebrovascular disease or klotho and cognitive function in patients with cerebrovascular disease?

5. Table 1, did you have information regarding cause of ESRD, comorbidities, smoking, and medication use?

6. What was the rationale of using cut-off 119 pg/ml
7. In table 2, Table 2 OR for Kltho < 119 and ≥119 were reciprocal value. I think it is less confusing to report only one value.

8. In Table 6, what is the definition of cognitive impairment

9. What is the limitation of this study

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

No

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published
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